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A new way to network

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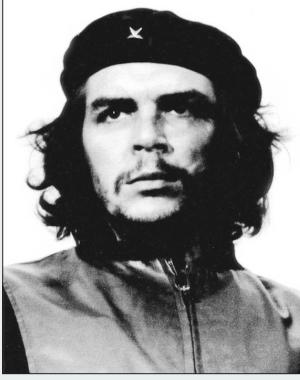
北京青年报
BEIJING YOUTH DAILY



MAP LIDO AREA
CAPITAL AIRPORT HIGHWAY
NORTH
WEST
SOUTH
4TH RING ROAD
Side Park
Japanese School
Lido Hotel
FANGYUAN(XILU)
1. 30 International Kindergarten
2. 21 Castle Italian Restaurant
3. Frank's Place
4. Le Petit-Feu
5. Pine Hill Korean Cuisine
6. Blue Lake
7. Domington Chinese Restaurant
8. Eudine Shistro
9. Yuexiang Hotel
10. Huisus International Apartment
11. Tex-Mex Grill
12. Coops Bakery & Cafe
13. Georges Indian Restaurant
14. Cafe del Mar Club
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16. Jenny Lou's
17. Sonne by Sophie's
18. Sculpting in Time

Lounging in the Lido area

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Relive a revolution of an adventure

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Tragedy and rebirth



A car accident in 1987 left Wang Xiaohui scarred beyond recognition and her husband dead, but greatness overcomes any obstacle. Wang has returned to Tianjin, her hometown, a successful artist after 30 years. Her Tianjin exhibition ends November 18, then will travel to Beijing and beyond.

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Photo provided by Wang Xiaohui

Tracing footprints on horse back

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Employers aim to dodge new labor laws

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A Canadian producer comes up short and male

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Long-term Beijing expats protect hutongs with NGO

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Larger rare blood reserve for Games

By Jiang Xubo

The capital began a campaign on Wednesday to attract more blood donations, especially from rare blood types, to fill the city's blood reserves for the upcoming Olympic Games.

The Beijing Red Cross Blood Center has collected some 400 units of R negative blood, accounting for about half of the amount designed for the Games. A unit is

equal to 200 milliliters.

The capital must prepare 800 units of rare-typed blood to meet hospitals' demands for blood use, according to guidelines for the municipal management during the Beijing Olympic Games and the Beijing Paralympic Games.

"Only three of every 1,000 local residents in the capital were born with a rare blood type, which made it extremely difficult for the

health authority to get an adequate supply," Deng Xiaohong, vice chief of the Beijing Municipal Health Bureau, said at the ceremony at Beijing Exhibition Center Theater.

The health authorities have tried many means to source more rare blood type holders. Voluntary blood donation provided 550 units of the blood in the first six months of the year, which means the city would have access to 100 units of

the blood next August when the Games are held, Deng said.

The blood center set up a caring heart society at the end of 2001 to search out and recruit people with Rh negative blood. The society has recruited some 150 members since then. Fifty-four of the members donated blood for the Games' blood reserve.

The caring heart society planned to launch further cam-

paigns for more blood donations at the 200 and 100-day countdowns to the Olympic Games.

As many as 1,750 units of Rh negative blood have been used in clinics this year, all from voluntary donation, up 24 percent from 2005. The consumption is expected to rise as athletes, spectators and Olympic volunteers from around the world gather in the capital for the Games, the blood center's spokesman said.

Hutong firefighting vehicles tested



Firefighters practice using firefighting vehicles and gears designed to combat Hutong blazes at Yanle Hutong in Dongcheng District yesterday.

Photo by Ivan Yuan

ATP award boosts China Open to top event

By Jiang Xubo

The China Open hosted a launch ceremony this week to celebrate and promote its promotion to one of the ten "500" tennis events in 2009.

Last month, the Association of Tennis Professionals' (ATP) named Beijing as one of those host cities for the 2009 ATP Tour.

Offering 500 points to the champion and US \$2 million in prize money, the China Open men's event is expected to help create a global standard ATP tier of premium tournaments starting 2009.

The men's event currently offers US \$500,000 in prize money and 175 points for the champion.

The ATP, governing body of the men's professional tennis circuit,

announced the ten cities that have been awarded "500" status for the 2009 ATP Tour early last month.

The other nine cities included Rotterdam in Holland, Dubai in the United Arab Emirates, Acapulco in Mexico, Memphis in the US, Barcelona and Valencia in Spain, Tokyo in Japan and Basel in Switzerland.

Designed to complement the nine "1000" events and World Tour Finals in London, the "500s" will be backed by a top player commitment to play four matches a year, including one "500" event post-US Open, which is hosted in August and September every year.

As a result, the China Open, which would be held in early September shortly after the US Open,

would have a surge in participating ATP top 20 players.

The ATP's decision came six months after the China Open was awarded one of the WTA four new "Crown Jewel" events for 2009 in March.

Both men's and women's events, currently back-to-back, would be held simultaneously starting in 2009.

The new arrangement will merge ATP and WTA's new top-level tournaments in China into one event, which makes the China Open the top tennis event in Asia," Zhang Yabin, co-chairman of China Open's Organizing Committee, said at the ceremony.

Zhang said the event had

become the fifth Grand Slam tennis event after the Australian Open, Roland Garros, Wimbledon and the US Open.

However, the China Open still has a way to go despite its "amazing progress in the last four years and its great potential to be one of the premier events," Brad Drewett, ATP CEO International, said at the ceremony.

"Grand slams, which have been held for 75 to 100 years, enjoy great tennis tradition. However, the sport is still young in China," Drewett said. "We need great facilities, strong management, local support and televised broadcasts. The event needs to continue before it can become a truly great one."

Brief news

Lower traffic death toll

Road accidents across the country last month resulted in 6,835 deaths, down 20 percent from that of the same period last year, a spokesman for the Ministry of Public Security said.

More HIV cases

The country filed reports of 220,000 cases of HIV as of the end of September, seeing an average rise of 3,000 new infections per month from last January to this June, Wang Ning, deputy director of the Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention, said.

846,000 Red Cross volunteers

As many as 846,000 people are volunteering for the Red Cross. The number is expected to exceed a million by 2010, Jiang Yiman, the RCSC deputy director, said at a Tuesday conference on China's Red Cross services.

Death toll for disasters drops

Natural disasters, including typhoons, floods, droughts and landslides, killed 34 people as of last month, down dramatically from the yearly average of 194 deaths in the first nine months, a spokesman for the Ministry of Civil Affairs said this week.

(By Jiang Xubo)

Foreign investment banned in key mineral industries

The government will prohibit foreign investors from exploiting "important and non-renewable" mineral resources, and will restrict energy-consuming and highly-polluting projects, according to new guidelines released Wednesday.

The new guidelines, put into action against a backdrop of economic transformation from quantity to quality, will replace the 2004 guidelines and take effect from next month, spokesmen for the National Development and Reform Center (NDRC) and Ministry of Commerce announced.

Foreign companies will not be allowed to enter "strategic and

sensitive" industries related to national economic security, though the NDRC did not specify what the industries are or what the restrictions will be.

The government will also curb the expansion of export-oriented industries to reduce a ballooning trade surplus, which has stirred protectionist sentiments among major trade partners.

Foreign investors are invited to join efforts to promote economic recycling, clean production, utilization of renewable energy and ecological and environmental protection, the guidelines said.

The manufacturing sector is

also open to foreign investment in high technology, equipment manufacturing and new materials industries, but foreign investment in traditional manufacturing industries in which China already has "mature technologies and relatively strong production capacity" is not encouraged.

The government is showing particular interest in new high-tech industries, especially electronics, biology, petrochemicals and medicines, and wants to redirect foreign investment to these, Jin Bosheng, a research analyst with the Ministry of Commerce, said.

Further guidelines for for-

eign investors in central and western regions are expected, the NDRC said.

Amid growing domestic concern that surging foreign trade has failed to benefit people in central and western China, investment regulators are focusing on upgrading industries in the poorer areas of inland China.

In 1997, China revised the industry guidelines for foreign investors three times.

The current policies to attract foreign investment were made 28 years ago when China was desperate for money and foreign currency.

(Xinhua)

Henan ex-MP charged with serial child rape

By Jiang Xubo

A former member of parliament in Henan Province has been arrested and charged with raping scores of underaged girls, the *Beijing News* reported this week.

Wu Tianxi, 61, vice chairman of the local committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference in Zhenping County, allegedly raped 36 girls between ages 12 and 16 since the start of the year.

Three teenage girls allegedly kidnapped five girl students from

a local middle school near the campus in one day in April. Local police arrested the kidnappers several days later, who reportedly confessed that they were rounding up virgins for Wu.

"Students from as many as seven to eight schools in the county are believed to have been sexually assaulted," Cai Xiangdong, principal of the local No third Middle School, said, who called the police after five of his students were kidnapped.

Local police arrested Wu at the end of April, and prosecutors plan to file charges soon.

Following a round of mahjong losses, Wu was advised by a geomancer that having sex with virgins would rid him of his bad luck, sources with the county police said.

Local people reportedly disagree, claiming that Wu targeted the girls out of his belief in a superstition that making love with virgins can enhance a man's body.

Wu became a model farmer-turned entrepreneur for his success at running a series of rural businesses since the 1980s, including a brick kiln, a flour mill and a frozen food company.

A county document said the company's assets were valued at 100 million yuan.

Wu offered scholarships to a local university and a local primary school. Wu withdrew the scholarships in 1998 when his businesses began to fall short on funds.

He was voted vice chairman of the county's Committee of Political Consultative Conference in the 1990s and became a delegate to the National People's Congress in 1998.

Wu was expelled from his post days before his arrest.

In addition to rape charges, local police have accused Wu of fraud, illegal fund raising, unlawful land sales and involvement in criminal gangs, the *Beijing News* reported.

Charity offers kick-backs for fund raisers

By Jiang Xubo

The Hunan provincial charity foundation began offering kick-backs to fund raisers as part of its latest charity campaign this week, the *Gongyi Times* reported.

The campaign, launched by the Hunan Charity Federation last Friday and running throughout the month, appealed for public donations.

The federation appointed a dozen people, registered as volunteers, to raise funds for the campaign. The participants were offered kickbacks as allowances, sometimes valued at as much as 8 to 15 percent of the funds they raised for the federation's bank account.

For charity materials, the federation worked out the kickbacks with reference to their market value.

The federation's regulations on fund raising, issued in 2004, ratified the kickbacks to encourage public involvement in charity.

Organizations and individuals could apply to register with the federation as volunteers and help to raise funds with the federation's approval.

"The federation only gained five staff members in 2004, and only one of them was in charge of fund raising. It felt short-handed when it tried to get more charity funds, so we worked out regulations to encourage public effort," Jiang Jianhua, director of the federation's office, explained.

As many as 1,000 people registered as federation volunteers since the regulations went into effect. As few as 20 of them participated in fund raising.

"Fund raising is not easy," Chen Xu, 35, a registered volunteer from Changsha, Hunan Province, said, "Who would put themselves through such a tough task if they were not given any reward?"

Chen secured financial support for 14 students from disadvantaged families last year. All money went to the children directly, not through the federation.

"It is hard to tell if what the federation did breaks the law, but it seems fine," Tu Meng, secretary general of the China Youth Development Foundation, said.

Tu said his foundation never authorized other individuals or organizations to raise funds.

The charity society feared the kickbacks might create lucrative opportunities, which went against charitable spirit.

Ancient Chinese footballs on display



The China International Exhibition Center has 2,008 cuju, ancient Chinese footballs, with both FIFA and AFC president signatures on display as part of an international football exhibition. Cuju is the country's only sport on its list of intangible relics.

Photo by Dragon Wang

Creative Industry Expo lights up the city

By Gan Tian

The Second China Beijing International Cultural and Creative Industry Expo (ICCIE) opened Wednesday at the Great Hall of the People, bringing a series of cultural and creative activities.

The six-day expo, ending Monday and hosted by the Chinese Ministry of Culture and the State Administration of Radio Film and Television, the General Administration of Press and Publication, and the Beijing Municipality, will feature meetings, conferences, exhibitions, ceremonies and prizes.

Art performances, including 15 dances, will be shown in theaters across the city, with the

Golden Mask Dynasty in OCT Theater and The Legend of Kung Fu in the Red Theater as the highlights.

The ICCIE 2007 exhibition will be held in China International Exhibition Center and will feature many category displays: radio, film and television; press, publication, printing and copyright trade; cultural relics and museum-related creative products; arts and crafts trade; sports industry, design creation, tourist attractions and commodities; students' cultural and creative works; animation, cartoons and games; public sculpture works and a graffiti exhibition.

The 2007 China Cultural and

Creative Industry Development International Forum, the leading forum, was held yesterday morning. Organizers invited Jiang Xiaoyu, executive vice chairman of the Beijing Olympic Committee, Munir Akram, chairman of the Group of 77 in the UN, and Michael Bichard, director of University of the Arts London to discuss the relationship between the Olympics, the city and the creative industry.

"Now, the most important task for this industry is to shift rich cultural resources into an industry and become the city, and even the country's, feature," Akram said. The industry is becoming critical in the city's development, he said.

Chaoyang Ferris wheel under construction

By Jackie Zhang

Construction on the Beijing Great Wheel began Monday in Chaoyang Park on the Beijing Great Wheel, a new Ferris wheel to be completed in 2009.

The Ferris wheel will be the largest observation wheel in the world, about twice the size of the London Eye, a spokesman for Beijing Great Wheel (BGW), the project developer, said.

The wheel was designed to be 208 meters high with a full rotation taking 30 minutes. There are 48 synchronized, air-conditioned observation capsules fixed on the wheel rim. Each capsule can carry as many as 40

passengers to see a 360-degree panoramic view of Beijing and beyond.

A new terminal is being constructed so passengers can board the wheel in a controlled climate and enjoy restaurants, bars and shops inside.

Florian Bollen, chairman of the Great Wheel Corporation (GWC) and director of BGW, said the city, long the cultural and tourist capital of China, is becoming an increasingly popular destination with the approach of the Olympics, and the wheel would be a perfect addition to its other developments.

"This project will allow Bei-

jingers to view their beautiful city from the ever changing perspective of a Great Wheel and will become a new landmark of the city," Bollen said.

BGW is developing the wheel in cooperation with Beijing Chaoyang Park. The London-based company, in connection with ABN AMRO and UniCredit Group, are expected to offer US \$99 million together with German investors in the fund Global View.

GWC, in charge of constructing the London Eye, the world's first observation wheel, will provide the technical backbone for construction of the Beijing Great Wheel.

Top 10 happiest cities unveiled

By Jiang Xubo

The country unveiled the latest list of its top ten happiest cities to live in on Tuesday following a six-month nationwide survey.

Hangzhou, capital of Zhejiang Province, ranked first in the list.

"People in this beautiful city are sincere and friendly. They care about each other and are willing to help each other. They are concerned with environmental protection more than their own homes," Wang Xiaotang, who presented the award, said at the ceremony held in Hangzhou.

Shenyang in Liaoning Province, Zhongshan and Zhuhai in Guangdong Province, Ningbo and Tai-zhou in Zhejiang Province, Qingdao in Shandong Province, Chengdu in Sichuan Province, Beijing and Shanghai also made the list.

The survey, launched in April by the Beijing-based *Oriental Outlook* magazine and the Social Survey Institute of China, aimed to determine the top ten cities in China where residents feel happiest.

The survey took various aspects of daily life into account, including pace of life, human touch, chances to make money, convenience, culture and entertainment, architectural aesthetics, environment and safety.

As many as 200 cities in the country were up for selection. The survey narrowed down a list of 35 candidate cities for the final vote, which ran from August through September.

As many as 2.8 million valid questionnaires were submitted, and the survey's website logged 30 million hits.

The survey found that cities like Hangzhou and Chengdu were included in the list for their beautiful landscapes, pleasurable lifestyles, low cost of living and low work pressure.

However, people in fast-paced metropolises like Beijing and Shanghai were reluctant to relocate and abandon the luxuries of modern life and the convenience of big cities.

"It's great that many people are voting for their happiest cities," Kaiyuan Hsee, a professor from the Graduate School of Business of the University of Chicago, said.

"The next step is to work out a means to collect and determine more accurately what factors affect a person's sense of happiness," Hsee told *Oriental Outlook* magazine.

Tracing footprints on horseback

Following Mannerheim's way 100 years ago

By Han Manman

A hundred years ago, Colonel Mannerheim, who would later on become the president of Finland, accepted the Czar's secret mission, an invasion of China. He then began his two-year-long military expedition on horseback through China.

A hundred years later, a pair of Finnish seniors setting out on a similar expedition tried to follow in Mannerheim's "footprints" by leaving from the same place on the same journey and on horseback. They were curious to compare circumstances then and now.

During their journey, they faced many dangers like running out of food and water but all things they experienced they felt would become the most cherished memories of their lives.



Tony Ilmoni (left) and Kristian Nyman



Old Photo: Mannerheim (third from right)



Their best friend, the horse.

Not a perfect end

For Tony Ilmoni, 54, a journalist and former Helsinki restaurateur, and Kristian Nyman, 62, a Finnish equestrian champion, their seven-month horseback expedition did not have a happy ending as they last Sunday caused a traffic jam in Tian'anmen Square – the final destination of their expedition.

These two Nordic senior citizens made a 6,000-kilometer trek through Central Asia. Besides them, the crew consisted of five horses, local tour guides and two service vehicles.

The journey was divided into segments and the only two who made the entire journey from Osh to Beijing were Ilmoni and Nyman.

On a cold and windy day, with cold beers in hand, Ilmoni and Nyman said they needed to fully relax now. "It's been a hard and exhausting journey," Ilmoni said. "I never imagined it would be this hard. The most difficult thing was just persisting and moving forward every day."

Ilmoni's wife arrived in Beijing on Monday and they plan to have a good vacation in Hawaii in the near future.

One more time

Ilmoni and Nyman have known each other for a long time and participated in the same sports competition 30 years ago. But they had very little contact with each other since then.

Three years ago, the couple was invited on a trip to America. One evening, when they sat inebriated in a bar, Nyman said he had an idea about riding through China on horseback and asked Ilmoni "What do you think about it?" Ilmoni said, "Yah, good idea, let's do it."

For Nyman, the idea for the expedition came for two reasons: his love of riding the first. He was a successful rider for 50 years in the cross-country riding field, even reaching Olympic status. The second and main reason was, 100 years ago Mannerheim made this journey and Nyman was curious to see if it could be

done on horseback.

After a year of planning and reading Mannerheim's diary many times, Ilmoni and Nyman began the trip last August. They separated the journey into two parts; the first was to discover the mountainous beauty and nomadic traditions of Kyrgyzstan before arriving at Irkeshtam pass and crossing into Kashgar, China.

The second part of the expedition began six months later, again in Kashgar, and followed the ancient merchant's route of the Silk Road, with the last destination being Beijing.

On the road

Ilmoni said they crossed 40 mountains at elevations of more than 2,500 meters, sometimes very dangerous especially crossing the glaciers in Xinjiang mountains, part of the ancient Silk Road.

The craggy glacial peaks were once famous for their steps, carved from ice. But the foreboding expanse has long been closed since 1949. However, as Mannerheim made the crossing 100 years ago, the Nordic adventurers decided to try it, too.

Things started happening. Crisp air had given way to unrelenting heat, turning this frozen wasteland into a melting death trap. Nyman and Ilmoni heard the terrifying sound of ice cracking. Suddenly the steep, snowy peaks were drained of beauty.

"Ice melting, rocks falling. It was dangerous. I started to feel the danger in every bone of my body like a scene from a disaster movie," Ilmoni said. That was the first time he feared for his life.

Suddenly, a huge ice ball headed straight toward one of their local guides. In the last minute, Ilmoni saved him. After that harrowing experience the guide said "No, no, no, I want to go home," and began to have regrets.

Natural disasters were one thing they had to face, but running short on food was another real danger.



Ilmoni and Nyman crossed over 40 mountains at elevations of more than 2,500 meters during the trek.

High atop a mountain, the crew ran out of food. According to their estimates, it was 40 kilometers to the nearest village. However, Nyman was too tired to continue.

Luckily, the mountain supported some small empty houses here and there for the villagers to inhabit during summer months. Nyman decided to stay behind while a guide and Ilmoni made the trek to get help.

Ilmoni said when they met people on the road, they were told it was just five hours to find water but the next person they encountered told them it was only six hours. This contradicting information made Ilmoni crazy and he lost confidence. They finally reached the village and took water and food back.

In Ilmoni and Nyman's minds, what put them at ease was the safety factor in China. Nyman said they received only one ominous warning while in a small region in Gansu Province.

They were warned that the local tribes there have a tradition of robbing and killing to demonstrate their manhood. "We were warned about it and rode faster in the daytime. Luckily, nothing happened."

As they neared Beijing, they noticed one interesting observation. "At the beginning of the trip, people were all very surprised to see a European guy. But when we drew closer to Beijing, people were curious about our horses. They were exclaiming, 'Oh, Ma! Ma!' Ilmoni said.



Old photo: Mannerheim's crew





Old photo: in a temple



Comparison of now and then

For Nyman and Ilmoni, it was a very interesting process to experience the differences in everyday life; the lifestyle of nomads, how their administration and local governments functioned and how missionary activities worked today.

"One hundred years ago when Mannerheim made this trip, China was weak and the reason a lot of foreign agents were in China was to see how to get a slice of the country. Today, China is strong, and it is interesting to study the differences in attitudes and see how China has changed," Ilmoni said.

What really surprised the two Nordics was how little the rural areas had changed. When they arrived in the city, however, it was totally different. "The city is like a modern island inside this big country," Ilmoni said.

"For instance, in Urumqi, it is metropolitan. But when you go out 20 or 30 kilometers from its borders you are taken back in time."

In more remote parts of the country, the men traveled long stretches with no hint of civilization. Arriving in villages and cities along the way, they were greeted with, "amazement, curiosity and a lot of genuine hospitality."

Often, crowds gathered and stared in bewilderment or community leaders would be summoned to invite the travelers to a welcoming banquet – on occasion with a plentiful supply of vodka.

"A pleasant surprise was how generous people were out there. People who had little, shared what little they had," Ilmoni said.



Dialogue

Why did Mannerheim spend two years on his trek but you traveled in only seven months?

When Mannerheim started in Kirghizistan, he rode to Kashgar and spent the winter there. We chose not to. He also had underlying social reasons and was on a military mission. So, we saved a lot of time.

Did you have sponsors?

We had sponsors, but they only provided material help. Most of the expenses were paid by us.

Which place did you like most?

The natural beauty of Yili Valley in western Xinjiang, very green. The river is clean – even astonishing. Then we started to cross towards the east, we didn't see anybody during the crossing. The imagery was like a scene from "Lord of the Rings."

Bad experiences?

China has beautiful natural scenery; unfortunately, many people don't pay attention to pollution based on the cities

Nyman said when they crossed the Karashahr in Xinjiang, it was a very tough and dry area for not only them but also the horses. They met a family still living in the traditional manner. Nyman said they were living in the middle of a high mountain with nothing but goats. The nearest well was 5 kilometers away and the place had no greenery at all.

"The way they were living was truly the same as 100 years ago. But they looked so happy," Ilmoni said as the images entered his memory forever.

During the trip, Nyman and Ilmoni observed that Chinese people in Nyman always "have certain ideas on how things are and even if that changes a little, they go on to do it regardless." But they said it's hard to see unhappy people in this country.

Future plans

After his vacation in Hawaii, Ilmoni plans to publish a book in at least three languages to record the whole journey.

An exhibition combined with the photos taken by Mannerheim and new photos by Ilmoni, many of these taken in the same spots as Mannerheim, will be opened very soon in Paris, Moscow, New York, Helsinki and Stockholm.

Ilmoni plans to come back to China next year to shoot a documentary in different locations.

Ilmoni said since he is so interested in Monasteries around China, he may also shoot a documentary about that. "I have already talked to several monks who were reluctant at first to stand in front of the camera, but they eventually relaxed."

Mannerheim's story from 1906-1908

Mannerheim is a very powerful figure in many ways. He is one of the reasons why Finland stands independent. But most people only became familiar with him after he became Finland's president between 1944 and 1946.

As a younger man, he spent 30 years in Russia, serving as a commander in the Russian Imperial Army. In 1906, he was



Old photo: a village leader takes his wives to target shooting.

Photos provided by Tony Ilmoni

chosen by Czar Nicholas II to undertake a secret reconnaissance mission. While the official objective was scientific, Russia in fact planned to split China in half. Mannerheim's descriptions of the people and their environment were later compiled in a military report.

The 1,300 photos he took at that time are also very important, as there were few photographers 100 years ago, and all the rich recorded detail of the life of the peoples along the way, turned out to be a real scientific treasure of the mission.



Traveling the same path as Mannerheim.

we visited. It's so sad to see.

How will you deal with your horses when you return to Finland?

We had five horses during the trip, but sadly, one died during the trek. They are very good horses which we bought in Kashgar. We will take them to Finland. They deserve it. If we leave them here, they may become sausage.

What will you miss when you return to Finland?

The best thing in China is the food. In Xinjiang and Gansu Province, they eat mostly noodles and you get a little tired of it. But it's good and absolutely much better than the food in Finland.

Did you quarrel with each other during the trip?

That was the thing we both were really concerned about before the trip. To be on a trip for that long, it's like being married. Of course we had some small disputes, but generally speaking, things went very well. We have different personalities. One

is direct and says what he thinks; the other is much calmer. That was a really good combination.

Looking back on the trip, what did you take from it?

It is too early to answer that question. It takes time. We are still thinking about it. We can answer your question a month or a maybe a year from now. There are so many things we don't know now. We need a little bit of distance to review it all.

Employers push mass resignation to dodge labor law



Workers warm up before opening at Wal-Mart in Beijing. Wal-Mart stores will eliminate 100 workers from China. IC Photo



Huawei's recent restructuring plan is drawing concern. CFP Photo

Earlier this year, the national legislature passed a broad new Labor Contract Law. The law is the first major piece of legislation on labor standards since 1994 and significantly expands the rights of workers.

The law will take effect

at the start of 2008. As the date rapidly approaches, Chinese and foreign-owned companies, including Huawei, Wal-Mart and LG, are reportedly preparing steps to dodge the more worker-friendly provisions of the legislation.

Resignation and layoffs

Huawei event

As many as 7,000 elderly employees of telecom equipment-maker Huawei, have been encouraged to resign from the company – only to be re-hired immediately afterwards, the *Beijing Youth Daily* reported Monday.

According to the report, the large-scale reshuffle, which only affects staff with at least eight years of service, began in late September and is expected to be completed by January, when the country's revised Law on Employment Contracts comes into effect.

The employees are being offered a "resignation package" to encourage them to resign from the company.

"The group of Huawei employees who are being encouraged to leave are only two years shy of the ten-year employment mark, which would qualify them for open-ended employment contracts in line with the new Labor Contract Law in the future," a Huawei employee told the *Beijing Youth Daily*.

Currently, most Huawei employees are working on one to three-year contracts. Under the new law, long term staff would effectively become permanent and harder – but not impossible – to dismiss when necessary in the future.

Shenzhen's Labor and Social Securities Office are reportedly investigating the allegations.

Official response

Huawei said Monday that last month's resignations were part of a program to boost competitiveness, and the move had nothing to do with the new law.

The privately-owned company is one of the first in China to give its staff stock options. However, it said it now needed to revise employment contracts to increase efficiency, which had been damaged by both the stock option plan and its unique "job number" scheme.

Under the former setup, workers who joined the Shenzhen-based company between its establishment in 1988 and 1999 were paid higher salaries and given a better benefits package.

The company said that providing generous pay and compensation packages to its early employees was causing resentment and tension in the younger workforce, Huawei told local media.

Long-serving employees would be re-hired on contracts similar to the current terms in exchange

for a compensation package.

Latest process

By Huang Daohen

A Huawei spokesman said Wednesday that its "mass resignation incident" was over, and new contracts had been signed with the workers.

The company declined to answer whether the move was approved by local labor administrative departments, and said this was not a layoff.

"In the past decade, Huawei's workforce has climbed to over 70,000, and that brings some problems like confusion over employment relations, for instance. This will do harm to the company's further development, and we need re-regulate," the spokesman said.

Most workers have returned to their previous positions, but as many as 100 people have not been issued a new contract.

An employee surnamed Chen said, several days ago, after resignation, the company signed a new four-year contract with him. The position, salary and compensation packages remain unchanged, Chen said.

The only differences are a change in job number, and Party A in the new contract is Huawei Technologies instead of the previous Huawei, Chen said.

The resignation earned Chen as much as 100,000 yuan and a five-day paid leave.

Related event: Wal-Mart layoffs

Wal-Mart Stores will reduce its China workforce by as much as 100 people as part of a restructuring program in its Global Procurement Division after pressure on the firm due to its slow profit growth.

The retailer plans to cut payroll in its four sourcing offices in Shenzhen, Shanghai, Putian and Dongguan, Huang Jianling, a communications official from Wal-Mart China, said. The jobs lost in China account for half of its global reduction.

"We have found some department functions overlap," Huang said. "The consolidation will help to reduce redundancy and improve efficiency."

Dong Yuguo, public relations director of Wal-Mart China, said the company's staff reduction has nothing to do with the upcoming Labor Contract Law of China, and Wal-Mart's outsourcing in China won't be affected as a result of this law.

(Agencies contribute to this story)

Controversial new law

New labor contract law

Though companies denied the resignation and layoffs were connected to the new Labor Contract Law, legal experts say that the move may be a way of avoiding the sections of the law which apply to long-serving employees.

Under the new legislation, employees who have worked for a company for more than ten consecutive years are entitled to sign "non-fixed term contracts" or open-ended labor contracts, rather than the more commonly used fixed-term agreements.

For instance, such persons can be given preference when significant downsizing occurs. These employees may also be entitled to greater compensation when terminated for certain reasons than employees whose fixed-term contracts are simply not renewed.

Workers that have already completed two fixed-term employment contracts with the same employer are also supposed to be offered a non-fixed term contract.

Official response

The new Labor Contract Law will not undermine the investment environment although it will better protect workers' interests and rights, China's top trade union body said.

Liu Jichen, director of the law department at the All-China Federation of Trade Unions, denied that the law is biased toward employees. "It not only protects workers' interests and rights, but also equally protects those of employers," he told a press conference.

The law, Liu said, had raised concerns that stricter contract requirements could raise business costs and give companies less flexibility to hire and fire employees.

Liu, however, said that the law takes into account employers' interests. For example, he said, employers can sign non-competition agreements with workers, with a non-competition period of not more than two years to encourage innovation and ensure fair competition.

Liu stressed that the law will help create a better labor relationship. "Labor protection is a worldwide trend," he said. "With working conditions improved and rights protected, employees will feel more secure, which leads to higher productivity."

(By Huang Daohen)

Expert comment

By Huang Daohen

Huawei's staff reorganization did not violate current labor laws at any point in the process, instead, it is a more comprehensive proposal, Zuo Xiangqi, chief legal consultant at China Labor Law Net, said.

"Looking at just the facts, it's difficult to say the company's aim was to avoid the new Labor Contract Law," Zuo said.

With the Labor Contract Law about to enter effect, the stricter dismissal system may be a worry for some employers. This will be something legislators will have to address, Zuo said.

Huawei's move may foretell waves of actions to evade the new labor law's requirements, Zuo said. He also noted that some companies would take certain actions against these categories of employees in order to evade the new regulation.

Workers likely to get paid vacation

By Huang Daochen

Years in the making, or at least in the debating, the idea of self-scheduled paid vacations is finally making progress.

The Legislative Affairs Office of the State Council released Monday a draft regulation on paid vacations, saying that "all employees of government and civil organizations, enterprises and public-service institutions are entitled to five paid days off after their first year on the job."

According to the draft, employees who have worked from one to ten years would

have five days paid vacation; those who have worked for ten to 20 years would have ten days; and those with more than 20 years, 15 days.

The draft stipulates that "employees should enjoy their full daily salary and welfare during the vacation just as when they are working".

Legal holidays and weekends will not be included as paid vacation, the draft regulation says.

The State Council has given the public ten days to make submissions on its draft regulations on paid vacations and set November 16 as the dead-

line for submissions.

However, there's a catch: The new paid vacation time would be deducted from winter and summer vacations. They will also be deducted from vacations designed for employees to visit out of town parents or spouses.

Besides, workers may see the end of "golden week" holidays at the end of this year as the government plans to make an adjustment on current holiday policy, the *Beijing News* reported. Giving the entire country vacations at the same time has led to predictable overcrowding at airports, train

stations, and more seriously, the eco-environment of tourist attractions, a State Council spokesman said.

China has been debating paid vacations for decades. In July of 1991, the Communist Party of China Central Committee and the State Council declared that workers were entitled to vacations of up to two weeks.

The Labor Contract Law, which took effect in January 1995 stipulates that employees who have worked for more than one year should enjoy paid vacations and the specific regulations will be issued by the State Council.

Comment

Rest is also a right

Like the right to work, the right to rest is one of the basic human rights. Paid vacation is a symbol of economic development and social progress.

Therefore, the objective of the latest draft is not only to make the paid vacation system more widely applied, but more importantly, to enforce the implementation of paid vacations.

— Li Ji, commentator

Caring for people

Paid vacations show compassion. It is also a manifestation of social progress and an idea of putting the human first. I am in favor of this decision! I hope that once it is approved, it is fully implemented.

— Zhang Jin, local resident

Vacation is a luxury

Vacation remains a luxury for employees from most private companies. Some employers simply do not write it into their contracts. There is an unwritten rule that people can ask for a leave of absence if they do have something urgent to deal with, but generally, workers never do it.

— Zhang Weihong, IT engineer

Good regulation

Good for the government. Hopefully the new regulation will change the way people enjoy their lives.

— Mark S, director, US

No time to go on vacation

I'm a little confused. Are we enjoying paid vacations? In the companies I've worked for, there are some rules that allow me to take paid vacations, about seven days annually. Unfortunately, I really don't have any time to leave.

— popeye, netizen

Up to the company

That's up to company policy. Some will pay you for accrued vacation time and some will not. I've gone both ways in my working life.

There is no legal requirement here (Massachusetts, US) for the company to pay for accrued vacation when one quits. You'll have to ask.

— bostonia, netizen

Sex culture shocks Guangzhou



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Visitors watch sexy lingerie show during the fifth National Sex Culture Festival in Guangzhou, south China's Guangdong Province. The festival themed "building moral sexual attitudes" attracted over 60,000 visitors to its first day last Saturday.

IC Photo

12 **13**

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A Canadian producer comes up short and male

By He Jianwei

A Canadian producer gave a screening of her new documentary with Chinese filmmakers last Thursday night at a Canadian and Chinese Documentary Filmmakers Forum.

Ina Fichman, a senior producer for TV programs and documentaries from Montreal, Canada, brought her new documentary, "S&M: Short and Male" with her Chinese counterparts to ignite a dialogue concerning the documentary filmmaking situation between China and Canada.

Fichman won Gemini Awards in 2003, which have been annually recognizing and celebrating excellence in Canadian English-language television since 1986.

Documentary hits heights

In 84 minutes, the documentary discusses the issue of height and unveils several stories about short males in Canada, the US, France and China.

The film tries to expose the short males' view of this world and the relationship that exists between their height and the success in their careers.

"We have found that the height of a man influences his professional success," Fichman said.

The documentary covers short males with different identities including salesman, comedian, president of an association, president of a country, the cox in a rowing team, a primary student and a law school student.

It reveals that most short males feel pain, because they feel disadvantaged in the face of many problems including asking a girl for a date or applying for a job.

Meanwhile, the documentary tries to look into the influence of social environment on the short male. "There is no act in the laws and regulations related to a human's height in the western world, but experts in psychology, anthropology and economy, told us the prejudice and discrimina-



Will you choose No 2 if you are a female?



Is the short male easily to be ignored in the street?



The director's son (left) believes a short guy can be a man. Photos provided by Channel Zero Media

tion towards the short males does exist in society and it is a serious issue," she said.

Topic wins producer's heart

Fichman and her crew took two years to finish the documentary, which cost CA \$800,000

(6.4 million yuan). They spent one year on research and script, six months for shooting and another six editing.

"The filmmaker came up with the film and I felt it was interesting and fabulous. The filmmaker

himself is a short man," she said.

At the end of the documentary, the director's son appears in front of the camera. He is short, but he doesn't feel humiliated, as he believes a short guy can also be a man.

They came up with a short title for the film, "S&M" for "Short and Male," which also reminds people of sadomasochism.

"We gave it a short name just because it is interesting and also reveals the difficulties short males have in their lives," she said.

Impressive shooting in China

Fichman and her crew filmed in three Chinese cities of Beijing, Shanghai and Chengdu and covered stories centered on lawsuits involving height in China.

In January, 2002, Jiang Tao from the Sichuan University Law School, brought a suit against the Chengdu Branch of the People's Bank of China, which had refused to employ Jiang on the grounds that his height was under 1.65 meters.

"This never happened in the other countries before according to our research. We felt this story was very strong and powerful for our documentary," she said.

Fichman also praised the cooperation of the Chinese crew. When they made the film in China, they employed domestic staff. "One of the challenges was the language. The local crew was a great plus for the interviews and the interviewees felt very comfortable," she said.

"The camera was also another interpreter for our crew. The director would shoot some scenes and then show them to the local cameraman. The scenes would tell the cameraman what the director wanted," she added.

The only regretful thing in China was that Fichman and her crew didn't get to interview Yao Ming's parents about the growth of their 2.26-meter child, Yao. When they stayed in China, Yao's parents were in the US.

Slovakian ambassador's friend gives first solo exhibition

By He Jianwei

An artist from Slovakia invited by the Ambassador of the Slovak Republic to China debuted his solo exhibition at the Art Scene Beijing in 798 Art District Monday.

Artist Peter Pollag's exhibition on the theme of "A Taste of Mystery" talks about the conversation between China and his country, in which he applied the seal script, a Chinese handwriting style prevalent before the Han Dynasty (206 BC-220 AD) featuring evenly spaced and neatly structured curves lines.

Pollag is a friend of Zigmund Bertok, ambassador of the Slovak Republic. "I discovered Pollag's paintings 25 years ago in Slovakia and I really love his work," Bertok said.

Several years ago, the ambassador met with the artist and believed Chinese audiences would enjoy his work.

Bertok believed that such an exhibition of one of the best modern artists in Slovakia was not something that could be seen everyday in Beijing due to the geographical distance between China and Slovakia.

"You cannot have a deep and lasting partnership with anyone or any country if you do not understand his or its culture," Bertok said.

The artist began his dialogue with China long before he visited the country for the first time in 2003. It was the beginning of his dialogue between the west and the east.

He saw himself as a bridge because "there are never enough and we constantly have to build them," Pollag said.

He was fascinated with ancient China when he visited Xi'an, Shaanxi Province. "Not only the ancient architectures but also the seal script in China really attracted me," he said.

After his return from China, Pollag and American photographer Sidney Gluck staged an exhibition, "First Emperor," at the Danubiana Meulensteen Art Museum in Bratislava, Slovakia.

In his works, the artist investigates the points of intersection of world views, traditions and customs and is deeply interested in their mutual penetration.

At the same time he seeks the distinctive character of cultures and strives to derive pure humanity from human stories.

Japanese theater focuses on Sun Yat-sen

By Gan Tian

Japanese actor Tagawa Yousuke, actress Yonekura Kishiko and theater director Shinagawa Yoshimasa arrived in Beijing on Wednesday, preparing their play *Sun Yat-sen and Umeya Shokichi* for the Chinese debut on Friday at the Chang'an Grand Theater.

The story is based on the years from 1894 to 1934, when Sun and Umeya became good friends and Umeya supported Sun's revolutionary dreams.

Tagawa, 48, will play Umeya. He admitted he found it difficult to capture the figure's character.

"He is very optimistic. When his wife told him they had no money for his career, Umeya stuck

by his friend and still showed great determination in supporting him. I had to find ways to express his optimistic attitude by using expressions and gestures."

Chinese Beijing Opera actor Zhang Chunxiang plays Sun Yat-sen. Yonekura, who plays Umeya's wife, was impressed by his Beijing Opera skills.

"Zhang can shift his facial expressions quickly, which is a typical operatic skill used in our production. At one point in the play, he is required to do a backward somersault. Every time he did it in Japan, the audiences would explode into applause," Yonekura said.

Director Shinagawa thought of many ways to present Sun's image



Photo of the play

Photo provided by Zhang Chunxiang

to the audience. "He is so important in China. We are very careful with his every expression and action including nodding, bowing, speaking and even shaking hands."

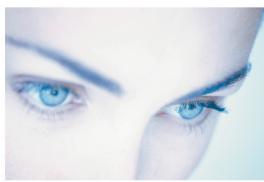
Shinagawa said the play would not delve heavily into the seriousness of the revolution. He said that

some of Sun's dreams have been realized now, which gave him the inspiration to direct the play. "Their friendship crosses all borders. They all have the same goal: they are working for the whole of Asia."

The director thinks that Japanese theaters are now experiencing a resurgence of popularity.

"Theaters and plays were brought into Japan from the west, translated, and then transformed into shows, for example, Shakespeare and some Russian plays," Shinagawa said. "However, there appears to be many good playwrights surfacing now and original Japanese theaters are developing fast. Our plays are good at combining some elements from the musicals and traditional theater."

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THREADLIFT FOR FACE AND NECK



What is threadlift? On which areas can it be performed?

Threadlift is a procedure which lifts and tightens loose skin or sagging soft tissues. Traditional lifts performed by surgeons involve large, dramatic incisions. Threadlifts, in contrast, use several small incisions and long internal threads or sutures, to contour and shape the face, neck and body, thereby avoiding the need for invasive and complex surgery.

Threadlifts can be used for scarless lifting and tightening of the face (including also eyebrow lifts, nose tip refinement, ear refinements), neck, chin, breasts, buttocks, and abdomen.

What are the benefits of threadlifts?

- A natural look
- No scarring generally
- Totally safe - no significant blood loss, therefore only minimal bruising and swelling may occur
- Minimal downtime - procedure is done using local anaesthesia
- Totally reversible.

Who performs the threadlift procedure, and where is it carried out?

The threadlift procedure is performed by Bioscor Beijing Clinic's highly skilled and overseas-trained cosmetic specialist doctors (eg from Australia), who

all have extensive experience in the latest threadlift techniques. They are also able to offer you ancillary procedures to optimise the results of your threadlift (eg laser lipolysis or liposuction, blepharoplasty, filler augmentation, etc). This ensures that you will: a) have an expert, detailed analysis of your problem area performed; b) have all appropriate options presented to you; c) have the most appropriate procedure recommended; and d) have the best care provided, including pre-operatively, and the treatment of any complications.

The procedure is performed in Bioscor Beijing Clinic, which has recently undergone an extensive refurbishment, transforming the clinic into a modern, discrete, world-class establishment, containing a fully accredited Day Operating Theatre.

Which areas of the face and neck can be lifted with the threadlift technique?

The threadlift procedure is most commonly performed to raise the cheeks and jowls, with associated improvements in the nasolabial folds, jowling and infraorbital hollow. It can also be used to lift and tighten loose skin under the chin and in the upper neck, and improve the appearance of 'double chins'.

What are the 'threads' made of, and are they safe?

There are various threadlift techniques, using different 'threads'. Three of the most effective threadlift techniques, offered by Bioscor Beijing Clinic, are silicon sling-lift, 'Serdev' suture-lift, and cogged thread-lift (commonly referred to as 'Aptos').

All threads used are made of inert materials (eg silicon, polypropylene) which have been used extensively in various applications and proven to be completely safe.

How much time does the threadlift procedure take?

This depends on how many threads need to be inserted to achieve the best possible result. The threadlift facelift and necklift procedures usually can be completed in under an hour.

How large are the incisions?

Threadlift incisions are usually small and generally heal without scarring (although individual skins heal differently and cannot be predicted). The silicon sling-lift can involve slightly larger incisions (up to an inch) which are hidden in the hairline.

Will I have an immediate result?

Yes, the results of a threadlift procedure are immediate and obvious. No other minimally invasive procedure can provide the significant and long-lasting results that the threadlift procedure achieves.

How many threads will be used?

This depends on which area is to be treated and the 'looseness' of the skin. Generally speaking, between 2-6 threads can be inserted in a standard threadlift facelift and necklift, depending on which threadlift technique is most suitable for the particular client. Bioscor's cosmetic specialist doctors will recommend the particular threadlift technique and the number of threads necessary to give the best possible aesthetic result.

Will I have pain during or after the threadlift procedure?

The threadlift procedure is performed under local anaesthesia. Once the local anaesthetic is injected, the procedure is completely painless. After the threadlift is completed, the local anaesthesia will wear off, and any subsequent discomfort can be controlled by simple oral analgesia.

How long should I plan on having "down time"?

Most clients return to normal light activities immediately after a threadlift procedure. To minimise swelling and bruising, in the first 48 hours after the procedure, you should avoid straining, avoid frequent/prolonged lowering of your head, and avoid alcohol consumption.

Are the threads visible through my skin?

No. Occasionally in some individuals with thin skin, tension on the thread can result in some initial 'buckling' of the overlying skin. In most cases, this 'buckling' spontaneously resolves over a few

weeks. However, if the 'buckling' persists or is problematic, the involved thread can be removed and/or replaced.

Will I be able to feel the threads?

Immediately after the procedure, there is some swelling around the threads, which can make the thread feel 'thicker'. Therefore, you may be able to temporarily "feel" some of the threads. After a few weeks, the swelling should have completely subsided. In addition, after 4-6 weeks, collagen forms around the threads, incorporating them into your tissues, so that they are no longer palpable.

How long do the results last?

The beneficial results from a threadlift procedure can last 3-5 years. However, individuals age at varying rates due to differences in genetic and environmental factors. Therefore, it is impossible to predict exactly how long any individual will maintain the improvements resulting from their threadlift procedure.

Can adjustments be made or threads be added in the future?

In the unlikely event that there is asymmetry after your threadlift procedure, it is possible to tighten or loosen existing threads. In addition, if you experience 'premature' sagging of the face or neck, or other soft tissues, it is easy to insert additional threads to further lift and tighten the relevant area.

Can the threadlift procedure be performed in conjunction with other procedures or treatments?

Yes. Other surgical procedures such as laser lipolysis, blepharoplasty, nose augmentation, chin augmentation etc, may be performed at the same time as the threadlift procedure.

Non-surgical procedures such as IPL, radiofrequency or laser skin tightening procedures, should be performed prior to the threadlift or at least one month after. Filler augmentation should be performed at least one month after threadlifts. Botox treatments may be performed one week before or after threadlifts.

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Long-term Beijing expats involved in hutong protection NGO

By Annie Wei

The *hutong* is considered one of the most important parts of Beijing's cultural heritage, and also one of the key factors attracting more and more foreigners who are deciding to make Beijing their second home.

Beijing Cultural Heritage Protection Center

When you stay in Beijing long enough and witness these cultural values being sacrificed for short-term economic gain, you may wonder how you can help.

Helja L, 31, from Finland, used to work in the IT sector, and her husband Yann B, 31, from France, a former Nokia employee, are an expat couple who met each other in Beijing eight years ago, fell in love and got married.

Like many other Beijing expats, they both enjoy cycling, enjoying old Beijing and taking pictures.

Registered in 2003, the Beijing Cultural Heritage Protection Center's mission is to support communities and protect their cultural heritage. They use cultural heritage protection laws, regulations and plans as their guidelines to carry out research and raise public awareness.

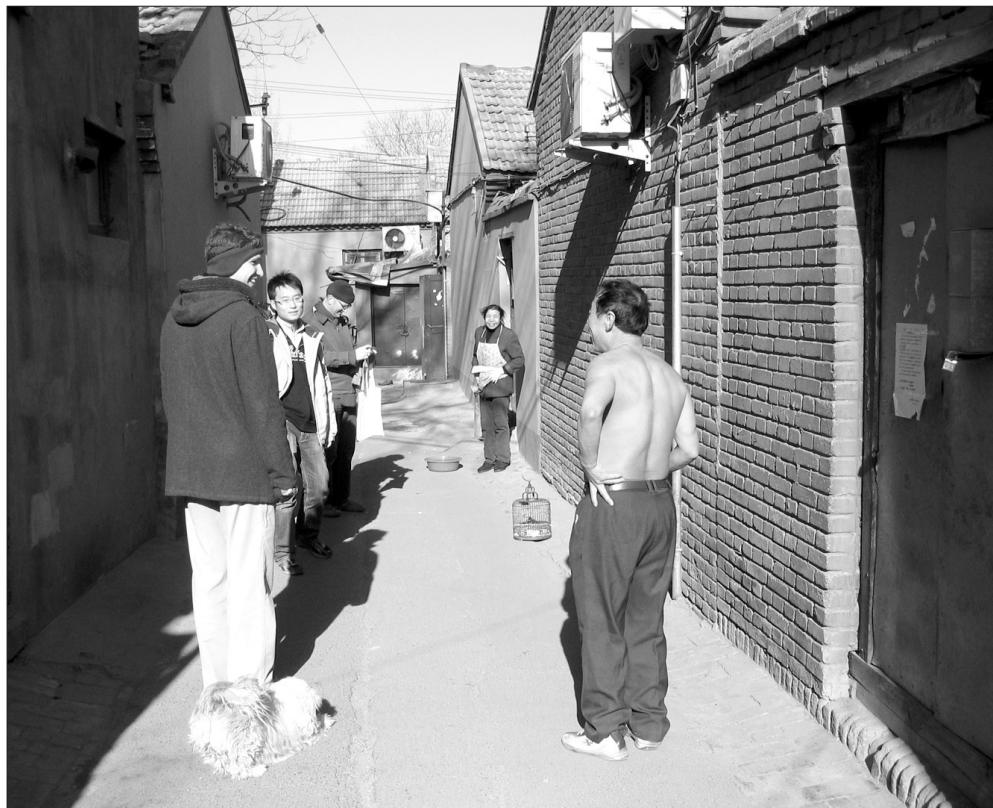
Their major project is called Friends of Old Beijing. With this project they depend on a large number of volunteers to do surveys in the hutongs in the old town and at the end of the survey they submit a report to relevant government bodies.

The project has been providing a platform for both expats and locals who want to do something to enhance old Beijing's culture protection.

CHP has a small group of professional staff members, a large body of volunteers and talented interns from some top universities around the world.

How volunteers work

Helja L and Yann B heard about the hutong protection activity in Bookworm last year, where CHP was looking for volunteers. The presentation was given by Michael Crook, a British citizen who was born and



Yann B (first from the left) and two other members of his team interviewing a local resident on a cold winter day.

Photo By Helja L

grew up in Beijing.

Helja L and Yann B were actively involved in the first phase of Friends of Old Beijing. They also attended training sessions for new volunteers for the second phase in October and shared their experience. During the first phase 35 foreigners joined the project as volunteers, making up half of the total volunteer body. During the second phase, there were seven foreign volunteers among the total 110 volunteers.

During the first phase, Helja L and Yann B chose the Guozijian, Yonghegong and Lama Temple area and assembled a team including another three foreigners and two Chinese.

In fact, the major sites of this area are well-protected, but there are many small surrounding areas needing attention, Yann B said. The team got together once

every two weeks and carried out surveys on the physical condition of the hutongs, courtyards and other structures. They also talked with local residents to learn what they thought about their environment.

Benefits of volunteering

"The way to protect the hutong is to generate awareness amongst the public, to have people realize the value of the historical environment," Yann B said about being a volunteer.

"It's a good way to learn more about Beijing's history and cultural heritage protection regulations," Helja L said.

During their interviews with local hutong residents, they found some residents did not even realize they were living in one of the protected historic cultural areas in Beijing; some residents demolished the old buildings and re-built new ones.

Yann B said the local residents weren't aware of the historic value of the neighborhood.

As a French person, Yann B draw may of comparisons between Beijing and Paris. Yann B thought that Paris had a very good design to protect its historical sites and Beijing hasn't begun yet. "If people know they live in a protected area, they might invest money to renovate their houses and improve their environmental conditions," he said.

"Through this project, we got to know people from different backgrounds. I think we received a lot by participating in this project," Yann B said during a gathering of Friends of Old Beijing on a recent weekend, also one of the CHP projects.

Anyone interest in this project can log on to bjchp.org for more information.

Danwei.org to hold its first plenary session

By Annie Wei

Danwei.org, a locally-based English website that selects and translates Chinese news into English, is going to have its first plenary session at a vegetarian restaurant next Thursday evening.

The session is to provide a platform for people who have interests in careers involving media, technology and communications to get together and exchange experience or opinions.

Established four years ago, Danwei.org has gained popularity amongst many expat readers.

Jeremy Goldkorn, 36, of South Africa, the founder of the website, said the average visitor count for Danwei.org numbers 10,000 per day.

Half are linked through Google and are people overseas looking for information about China. The rest are regular visitors who read Danwei.org once a day or several times a week.

"We found that there is a community evolving through danwei.org. We are looking for more communication with our readers," Goldkorn said.

Like the main topics of this session, careers in media, technology and communications, Goldkorn said that these industries including media, news, advertising and networks are very interesting in China right now, and many people are looking for opportunities.

The first session will have representatives from top companies

in media, technology and communications industries, like Phillip Pang, senior recruiter from Google, Mei Fong, Pulitzer Prize winning correspondent for the *Wall Street Journal*, Patty Lee, account director of Edelman Beijing and Hary Varehn, who handles recruitment and talent management for media buying giant GoupM, the largest TV media buyer in China.

These representatives will discuss where their companies are going, how to get on board and give a choice to learn about the recruitment needs of these star companies and their industries, as well as strategies for building your career in China and the global economy.

But Goldkorn hopes people

come with refined manners because this is not a job fair.

So far, there are 60 people registered for the event. Goldkorn said danwei.org might limit the number to 100.

For the first session next week, it is estimated to be made up of 70 percent expats equaling the number of danwei.org readers. Interested readers who miss this session can wait for the next one.

"We will plan the next event after the first one is done," Goldkorn said, "Many people will leave Beijing for Christmas in December, so the next event might be in January, and we want to hold it monthly in the future."

For more information, check danwei.org.

Events

A literary lunch with Professor Anne Fogarty

James Joyce was one of the most significant of twentieth century writers, changing the nature of the novel and influencing artists around the world. Joyce chose Dublin, his Irish birthplace, as his subject matter. Professor Anne Fogarty, an appointed professor of James Joyce in Ireland will consider how he made this city in Ireland a universal place of the imagination. It will examine the question: why is Joyce's art revolutionary?

Where: The Bookworm, Building 4, Nan Sanlitun Lu, Chaoyang

When: November 14, 12:30 pm
Cost: 78 yuan, including a two course lunch
Tel: 6586 9507

Lecture: Global Climate Change and Effects on Tibet

Yabshi Pan Rinzinwangmo, daughter of the 10th Panchen Lama, will discuss environmental challenges facing Tibet, her father's conservationist legacy, and ongoing efforts to save Tibet's precious natural wonders during an engaging evening with the Beijing International Society.

Rinzinwangmo dedicates much of her non-academic time and energy to her ongoing roles with over 20 global charities and organizations: namely the Red Cross, Rokpa International, the All-China Youth League and several orphanages and charities in the Tibetan ethnic regions.

Where: 17 Guanghua Lu, US Embassy, Chaoyang

When: November 15, 7:30 pm

Hike from Ming Village to seven towers ruins

This hike features it all, including ancient villages, the wild Great Wall, a summit, cliffs, high meadows, forests and valleys set in red leaves in autumn. Located in Mentougou District, in the west of Beijing called Huang Cao Liang, this is the largest high meadows area in Northern China.

Where: Mentougou District, 120 kilometers west of downtown. Depart from Lucky Street, east of Yansha (Lufthansa Shopping Mall).

When: November 10, 7 am
Cost: 300 yuan per person, including insurance, entrance fee, guiding, organization, transportation to and from Beijing, picnic, snacks and 500ml water.

Tel: 5120 5889

Meditation workshop

Practice finding inner stillness and to explore the theory and experience of various forms of meditation.

Where: Yoga Yard, Floor 6, 17 Gongti Beilu, Chaoyang

When: November 10, 8 pm - 9 pm
Cost: 100 yuan
Tel: 6413 0774

(By He Jianwei)

New policy released for second phase ticket sales

By He Jianwei

The public may submit ticket applications from December 10 to 30, according to a new policy for the second phase of the domestic Beijing Olympic ticket sales released Monday by the Beijing Organizing Committee for the Games of the XXIX Olympiad (BOCOG).

The new ticketing policy will institute a one-time lottery drawing to determine ticket buyers, according to the notice from the BOCOG Ticketing Center.

The order of ticket application submissions will not matter and no priority will be given to applications received first. The ticket purchase limit will be adjusted accordingly.

The ticket purchase limit and the date of the lottery drawing will be announced at a later date.

Ticket sales for the second phase will resume on December 30 and will follow a modified ticketing policy. According to the BOCOG Ticketing Center, tickets successfully reserved by ticket buyers on October 30 through the various sales channels will still be valid. Specific ticket purchase guidelines for these ticket buyers will be released later.

After the second phase domestic ticket sales was launched on October 30, the public purchase of



Residents jamming in Bank of China Xidan branch to purchase the Olympic tickets. CFP Photo

tickets surpassed the system processing capability by more than eight times, leading to "paralysis" of the official Olympic ticketing website.

As a result, BOCOG decided to temporarily suspend the second phase of domestic ticket sales and issued an explanation on October 31.

Statistics show that 43,000 tickets were sold last Tuesday, 90 percent of which were sold through the website.

The 1.6 million tickets sold during the first phase between April and August were allocated by lottery, including 63,000 for the opening and closing ceremonies at the National Stadium.

The second phase of the sales had about 1.85 million tickets on sale through websites, a hotline and designated Bank of China branches.

A total of 7 million tickets are available for the Beijing Games, with some 75 percent

reserved for domestic sales. In the third phase – from April to August next year – tickets will be released on a first-come, first-served basis.

Channels for booking tickets

There are three channels for purchasers to book tickets. You are able to use the ticketing website at tickets.beijing2008.com, call the BOCOG Ticketing Call Center at 952008 or use your ticketing account at any designated Bank of China ticketing outlet.

Traffic control for the Olympic test events in November unveiled



The international mountain bike competition, part of the Good Luck Beijing series, attracted many visitors. CFP Photo

By He Jianwei

To guarantee the smooth operation of the Good Luck Beijing sports events in November, the strategies of traffic control were announced last Friday by the Beijing Organizing Committee for the Games of the XXIX Olympiad (BOCOG). There will be four sports events held in November.

Olympic Sports Center area

The 9th World Wushu Champions will be held from November 11 to 17 in the Olympic Sports Center Gymnasium.

During this period, only vehicles for the sports events and the other vehicles with a

remain unregulated.

Only vehicles for the sports events and other vehicles with the vehicle pass given by the traffic department are allowed to go onto the campus.

Workers' Indoor Arena

The 2007 International Boxing Invitational Tournament will be held from November 17 to 22 in the Workers' Indoor Arena. The traffic control will be carried out from 4 pm to 11 pm on November 17, from 11 am to 11 pm on November 18 and 19, from 4 pm to 11 pm on November 21 and from 11 am to 7 pm on November 22.

Vehicles without permission from BOCOG or the traffic department will not be allowed to enter the western part of the Workers' Indoor Arena and Xinzong Jie.

The sides of Xinzong Jie and Gongti Bei Lu are no parking zones for vehicles without permission.

National Indoor Stadium

The 2007 Artistic Gymnastics International Tournament will be held from November 28 to December 3 in the National Indoor Stadium.

The traffic control will be in operation from 9 am to 9 pm on

November 28, from 9 am to 10 pm on November 29 and from 4 pm to 9:30 pm on December 1, 2 and 3.

Vehicles without a vehicle pass will not be allowed to travel on the Jingguan Lu, Zhongyilu and Jingguan Xilu.

How to get a vehicle pass

If you live near the areas mentioned above, you can get a vehicle pass from the traffic department seven days in advance of the beginning of the events.

You must bring a certificate from the residents' committee, your vehicle license and ID card to the traffic department to get the vehicle pass.

Go to the Traffic Demand Office of the Olympic Sports Center from 9 am to 11 am and from 2 pm to 4 pm; the security department of the University of Science and Technology Beijing from 9 am to 11 am and from 2 pm to 4 pm or the traffic branch office of Dongcheng District from 8:30 am to 11:30 am to 1:30 pm to 5 pm on November 12, 13 and 14.

Suggestion

Organizers advise the audience to attend the matches using public transportation to relieve the traffic burden.

ASK Beijing Today

Email your questions to: weiyi@ynet.com

Where can I find yarn stores in Beijing? I want to purchase some of the "bamboo yarn" and "yak hair yarn" I have heard so much about. If you can help me with an address that would be wonderful. Thank you so much!

Yak hair is specially produced in Tibet. As Beijing is not a city known for the fabric manufacturing business and the majority of consumers in Beijing do not make their own clothes with yarn, it's hard to find such a store. But we have found a company in Chengdu you can contact: Xizang Shenfeng Maoyi Youxian Gongsi, Tel: 028 8508 1081. If you are doing any kind of trade business in China, we recommend you to log on to alibaba.com.cn and register to become a member, and then you can find more detailed information on varied products and suppliers.

Where can I find a general crafts store? I want to dabble in making my own charms using Chinese knots and pieces of jade. I like all the little charms I've seen in the stores and want to make my own. I know that they are so cheap to buy, but things you make yourself are so much more personal, right?

For Chinese knotting, you can go to a big wholesale market like Tianyi (259 Fuchengmen Wai Dajie, Xicheng, Tel: 6832 0761, 6832 0732, Bus 102, 103 and 114); or Guanyuan (Jia 4, Chegongzhuang Dajie, Xicheng, Tel: 5195 4001, 5194 4499).

If you want to make something special and do not want to run around the city, try this store at taobao.com, the Chinese equivalent of eBay to place an order. (shop33575651.taobao.com).

Which church is legal in Beijing that I can attend?

There are four churches within downtown Beijing. They include the Eastern Church (500 meters north of the northwest station exit of the Wangfujing subway station), Western Church (on the southern side of Xizhimen Nei Dajie; take bus route 7, 808, 27, or 105 to the Xitang), Southern Church (181 Qianmen West Street in the Xuanwumen area; take the loop subway to Xuanwumen Station; the church is a few meters from the northeast exit of the station), Northern Church (west of Zhongnanhai, at Canchikou and west of Ziguang Pavilion; take bus routes 103 or 109 to Fuyoujie Station).

It was so sad that I could not find proper costumes for a Halloween party. To make sure I dress well next year, do you know any places where I can shop?

Xidan's Huawei Shopping mall has some stands selling similar stuff. For convenience, just log on to taobao.com and type Halloween clothes in Chinese and you will find lots of outfitts at varied prices.

(By Wei Ying)

By Han Manman

Wang Xiaohui, 50, is a woman with a very unusual history. Her life is characterized by many ups and downs containing luck and joy and separation and mourning. Through these challenges, photography became a forever companion in her life.

In a car accident where she lost her husband, her body and face were disfigured beyond recognition. When she returned to active life, the first thing she did was to document the deep wounds in her face and in her emotions with a camera. From then on, her destiny changed.



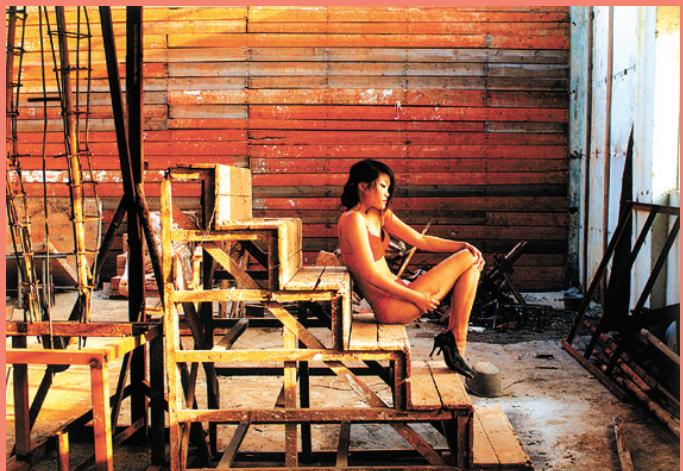
The Eros of Flowers, 1999

Between

Wang Xiaohui records her life

When Wang Xiaohui returned to her hometown Tianjin after 30 years, she held the biggest art exhibition of her life at the Tianjin Academy of Art. She joked that such a big exhibition normally is held after someone dies. Choosing Tianjin as the first stop on her world tour, Wang took over 400 pieces of her works including photos, sculptures and settings to show.

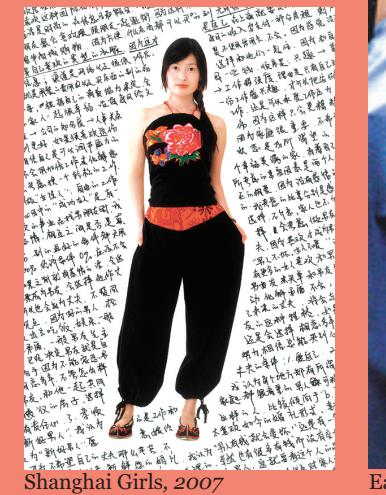
Despite her age, Wang is an elegant woman and not afraid of being in front of the camera lens. Whenever she appears in public, people are attracted to her delicate and elegant temperament through her body language and attire. When speaking, she always tilts her head a little and smiles charmingly.



Lost Angels, 2007



My Last 100 Years, 2005-2007



Shanghai Girls, 2007

Tragic turning point

There were two huge turning points in Wang's life, which changed her art path and ideas for life. "Before, I had been very ignorant about the meaning of life due to the fortune and love that had been bestowed upon me. After I went through my tragedy, I came to know the power of truth."

It began when Ansgar Schmid, one of her earliest German friends met Wang at a party, and immediately fell in love with her even though she insisted they could only be friends. On a visit in September, 1987, however, Wang was not home and Schmid asked Wang's husband Yu whether he loved her. Yu said he would give up everything for his wife.

Schmid jumped out the window.

Schmid was an idealist. When his life comes to an end, the suffocated as well. He said this the as long as one dies for love. After her husband and friends all said it was not her fault, Schmid's death had a lot and prompted her to muse on the meaning of life.

Another crossroad in her life occurred in 1987. A car accident killed her husband. Wang survived but was seriously injured and her body was injured beyond recognition.

When she regained consciousness, she knew her husband would never

between two worlds

Life through art

on

ed into several series in ten from one hall to another, visiting of her life's art. The Chinese government implementing policies, Wang had the overseas. She began to explore world. At that time, Wang's were almost exclusively architectural. Her pictures from that time character expressing curiosity about the world.

she worked on a series of the series, "human relationship" reflected her feelings of hopelessness, disappointment and fear, as well as social relationships. In the series, shows the desire to free oneself

from various bonds.

After her fateful car crash she tried to express her inner experiences in her artistic work and she began to use photography to document her personal life in the sense of a *Visual Diary*. During this time, she created a further series, *Associations With Death and Flower Funeral*, which mourn the impermanence of life. For the series *Flower Funeral*, she lets blossoms burn, freeze and mold, then she bakes or presses them. The life and death of the flowers symbolizes the cycle of life and the feebleness of life against death.

After 1999, Wang slowly released herself from the shadow of death in the series, *The Eros of Flowers*, the metaphor of flowers had already lost some of its taste of death and it addressed the opulence of life.

And today, her latest work is beyond traditional photography, it is contemporary conceptual photography. Through a combination of ideas, design, action-art, and installation, she captures the cultural

phenomena of contemporary society as well as herself.

A 22-meter picture scroll with the one heroine, Wang Xiaohui, called *My Last 100 Years* shows several dozen Chinese women dressed in styles of different periods. Wang said this is the life of Chinese women over the last 100 years with their history flowing through her. Just like Walter Keller, the German president of Photo Museum Winterthur/Swiss commented, "Wang's image of the world takes us on a journey. Her *My Last 100 Years* offers a testimonial and accords respect to the history of Chinese women. She possesses the ability to make us contemplate stories, and not only narrative stories, but also critical works."

During recent years, Wang has predominantly lived in China. Thus, her artistic creativity has a more intense connection to the development of contemporary Chinese art. In her exhibition, the two series, *Red Child* and *Shanghai Girls*, reflect

the current situation of life and the spiritual reality of children and adolescents in China.

The series, "Shanghai Girls," is based on a survey of the cultural interests of young people in Shanghai. The results of this survey are integrated into her photographs. The series is a visual archive of the lifestyles of contemporaries and not only features modern Shanghai girls' images, but also records their youth confessions such as "Good looking men made me feel insecure," "The phrase I use most is 'I'm dying,'" "My priority is my work, not my boyfriend," "Sex and love can't be separated."

Much of her cherished history is shown in the documentary hall, from her first work and her first media report to the letters that former German president Helmut Kohl and Gerhard Schroeder wrote to her.

The exhibition tour will travel to Beijing, Shanghai and then to American and European cities later after finishing in Tianjin on November 18.



Photos provided by Wang Xiaohui

Early Temptation, 2007

her again and call her, "My little nitty girl." Wang left 100 lips on a paper to show her last goodbye message to her beloved husband. The lips took hours to make and Wang endured great pain to do it with her horrendous facial injuries.

Once healed from the car accident, Wang turned down an offer from a university and concentrated solely on photography, which she believed was the best way to record life.

Deeply impressed by her personal experiences, her understanding of the concepts of "life," "death" and "love" became even more intensive and idiosyncratic. These concepts formed the never expiring source of her creative inspiration and became the main motives of her artistic expression.

Counting life's minutes

Wang's friends came from all over the world to Tianjin to support her exhibition, from global company presidents to documentary directors. When asked their impression of Wang, most of them described her as a "busy" and "powerful" woman. "She is very clever, very talented and sometimes disorganized," Mantow Chow, Taiwanese documentary director, said.

Wang said when she asks assistants how much time they need, she always asks them to respond with "how many minutes" instead of "very soon." She also

tells herself to count minutes as life passes because life is frail and short, one must do meaningful things within this limited life. So, she keeps busy and shuttles countries around the world taking photos and writing.

Friends also say Wang is a strong and direct person. She will quickly point out your mistakes without considering your feelings, which was proven when she asked to change a translation during a workshop as the translator's version didn't satisfy her. "I am strict and direct. I don't know how to say things backhanded." Wang said sometimes she might wound others' confidence but has no time to care about it. "If I cared about

all of these things, I would be so tired."

Maybe during Wang's youth, she had already formed a strong personality. "My mother was already 36 when I was born. I was ill and needed x-ray treatments. I was not sure that my hair would grow again," Wang said. So, in her elementary school, she had to wear a cap as some of her hair had fallen out. She really didn't want to go to school because she was afraid that her classmates would mock her. "My mother told me the story of the 'ugly duckling,' encouraging me to win others over by achievement instead of appearance. From that day on, I received the best marks in all my subjects."

Deceptively simple ways to earn dinner time praise

While the US may have a reputation as one of the fattest nations around, belt sizes in Beijing are hardly lagging. Children ages 11 to 12 have an obesity rate of almost 21 percent, according to reports from the China News Service.

Combating the same problem in the other hemisphere, mother of three Jessica Seinfeld, 36, president of the non-profit corporation Baby Buggy and wife of comedian Jerry Seinfeld, 53, has whipped up *Deceptively Delicious: Simple Secrets to Get Your Kids Eating Good Food* (208pp, Collins, US \$14.97), a book of delicious recipes aimed to deceive the fussiest eaters: children.

"The harder I pushed them to eat good food, the harder they pushed back. We were literally ruining each other's meals," she told Amazon.com in an interview.

From the book's approach, there are two key problems in getting children to eat healthy: hectic work schedules diminish time in the kitchen, and children don't like vegetables – or so they think.

Seinfeld's recipes replace processed sugars with vegetable purees and sneak nutrition into mac and cheese, spaghetti and a month's worth of dishes and desserts.

The book also contains Seinfeld's personal anecdotes about dealing with her three fussy eaters and how to deal with children who demand the latest sugar-laden cereals.

"Kids at this age are naturally testing preferences, pushing boundaries and changing their minds," she said. "That's part of their development, and those are urges not worth battling."

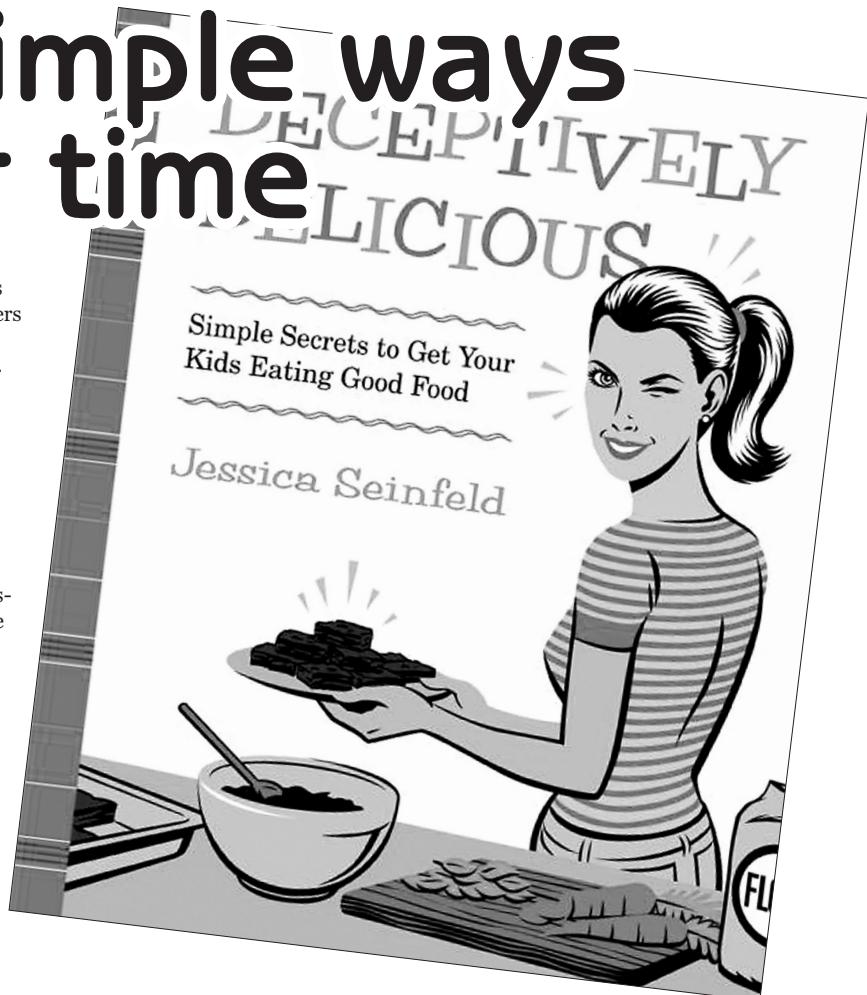
Instead of wasting her time on an argument doomed to go nowhere, she takes to the battleground of the kitchen with a nutritionist and professional chef to ensure her recipes have key ingredients children need: protein, calcium, vitamins and Omega 3 and 6 fats.

Seinfeld knows what it's like to be a parent with little time. She works, and her husband is always on the road, but dinner isn't something Seinfeld will leave up to day care.

"My parents had three kids and both worked too, and we always managed to eat healthy meals as a family," she said.

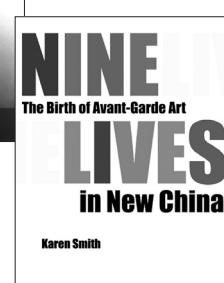
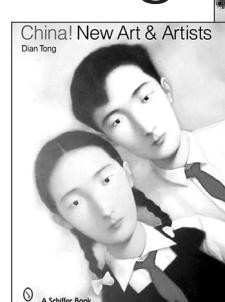
Not every meal parents prepare for children will be a success, but the recipes in this book and others like it can give any family ammunition to attack a growing problem.

(By Derrick Sobodash)



Timezone 8 book listing

Timezone 8 Limited is a Hong Kong-based publisher, distributor and retailer of books on contemporary art, architecture, photography and design. This week, it lists its three top-selling books for *Beijing Today*'s readers.



China! New Art & Artists
By Dian Tong, 231pp, Schiffer Publishing, 630 yuan

In the late 1970s, artists began to move away from the Romantic-Realism of the 1960s and 1970s propaganda art to experiment with new forms and techniques. Influenced by the Western modernist and post-modernist art that was entering the country as part of the "Cultural Discussion," they continued to bring a humanistic, political edge to their work. By the mid-1980s an active, experimental art movement appeared in China, which one critic dubbed the "85 New Wave."

Nine Lives, the Birth of Avant-Garde Art in New China
By Karen Smith, 449pp, Scalo Publishers, 375 yuan

The ten contemporary Chinese artists who debuted at the 48th Venice Biennale in 1993 were immediately hailed as progenitors of a Chinese "avant-garde." Their brightly-colored, Pop Art-inspired paintings played with socialist motifs, and gave a visual expression to the feelings of disaffected Chinese youth. *Nine Lives* introduces nine artists, including Wang Guangyi, Geng Jianyi, Fang Lijun, Gu Dexin, Li Shan, Zhang Xiaogang,

Xu Bing, Zhang Peili and Wang Jianwei, their personal histories and their views on China today.

China: Art Now
By Michel Nuridsany, 264pp, Flammarion, 450 yuan

China: Art Now examines trends in the explosive generation of contemporary artists by visiting them where they live and work, in thirty fascinating studios on the Chinese mainland and in the US. This book highlights not only the artists' governing aesthetics, but also their everyday working lives in painting, sculpture, photography and film-making spaces.

(By He Jianwei)

東京塔



He becomes an illustrator and decides to live with his mother in Tokyo.

He and his mother live happily together in his apartment, but then her illness returns.

The story has touched many and brought some to tears, especially young people who have been forced to leave their homes to find work.

The novel inspired a television drama and a movie, both of which secured favorable ratings and box office returns in Japan.

About the author

Nakagawa Masaya was born on November 4, 1963, in Fukuoka, Japan. His pen name, Lily Franky, is a concentration of Franky Goes to Hollywood and his nickname Yuri, Japanese for "lily," which he had while in university.

He is an actor and a writer, and also a musician, illustrator, animator, photographer and essayist.

Tokyo Tower, Mom and Me, and Sometimes Dad

By He Jianwei

The love between a mother and son may be a beautiful thing, but how it holds up in the face of a series of separations is something explored in Nakagawa Masaya's autobiographical novel.

Tokyo Tower, Mom and Me, and Sometimes Dad (229 pp, CITIC, 25 yuan), was "written for you; you can recommend it to your father, but not to your mother," Nakagawa Masaya, who published the book under his pen name "Lily Franky," wrote on the cover.

The book tells the story of Nakagawa Masaya and his mother Nakagawa Eiko, and explores life and death and the love between mother and child.

Nakagawa Eiko left her husband to raise Nakagawa Masaya by herself when he was three years old. Nakagawa Masaya had a good relationship with his mother, like most mothers and sons.

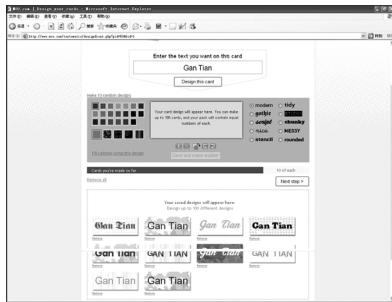
Eventually, he left their small town on Kyushu bound for the big city: Tokyo. He is a talented artist but lacks motivation, and over time, his dreams of becoming an artist fade even in the face of his mother's support.

Eventually, he falls into his irresponsible father's footsteps.

His first love leaves him. His friends leave him. He goes bankrupt and can't pay his rent. His life is in shambles.

One day, he learns his mother is seriously ill, giving him the inspiration needed to change his ways.

Business cards are serious business



Moo provides ten choices for its customers when they design MiniCards.

By Gan Tian

Richard Moross, 25, a young British man, started his online printing company Moo (moo.com) in London last month to promote what he believes is a new business concept: the "MiniCard."

Moross's MiniCard service allows customers to design their own special business cards. A box of 100 custom-made, non-identical cards costs US \$19.99.

The cards measure 80 centimeters long and 28 centimeters wide and are shaped like bookmarks.

First, choose a background from the website's collection, and then upload designs and photos. Customers only need to know how to copy, paste and crop to design their own cards.

After that, submit any personal information like the name, address and telephone number, and whatever else a business card should have. Lastly, specify printing options and pay with a Visa card.

Moo has an "online tool" to help users select a pattern, colors and fonts. The design process is fun and creative, and options to randomly generate designs can help spur users' creativity.



Different MiniCards

The site cooperates with Flickr, LiveJournal, Second Life and Bebo. Users can import their images from these sites to use in MiniCard design.

Derek Orson, 34, manager of a pub in Ireland, said everyone can benefit from MiniCards. "Business cards are too formal and are not always appropriate for casual settings," Orson said. "Even if you represent a business, MiniCards can help bring you and your customers closer together."

Supportive swim wear finds new use



Speedo party

By Gan Tian

Australian swimming supplier Speedo has attracted an off group of Chinese fans.

Liu Xuanyu, 28, marketing manager in an IT company, has been sliding into the skin-tight swim trunks for years.

After finishing his laps, he ran into swimming partner Bruce Thunt from Ireland in the bathroom. Thunt was sporting a pair of Speedo trunks over his nethers instead of normal jockey shorts.

Swimmers keen to save a few bucks have found that Speedos are cheaper than briefs and made of much stronger material, making them a favored underwear alternative to pricey CKs.

"It's not just that they're Speedos. Wearing a pair of them all day makes you feel like you can look forward to a relaxing swim at any moment," Liu said.

Speedo doesn't just mean swimming, but toys for Zhang Meilin, 28, a fashion reporter. She has collected Speedo whale toys for years.

"This brand has more than swim trunks, goggles and other equipment. It also produces some water toys. My Speedo whales are a reminder of my childhood," Zhang said.

Zhang said she hopes the toys will become valuable collectors' items one day.

Luke Jia, 25, a programmer, organizes "Speedo Nights" parties. All guests are required to wear Speedo label clothes.

"Introducing a swimming concept to a home party is fun, even if there is no water," Jia said.

Of course, none of that will stop merciless Speedo teasing from US friends.

Drinks that prefer not to be chilled



Little Red Riding Hood-style hats

By Gan Tian

Pull out your wool yarn, small needles, yarn sewing needle and scissors and get ready to start knitting.

No, it's not because the capital's clothing prices have caught up with its housing ones, it's to make hats for innocent's smoothies.

The British beverage company is holding a charity activity called "the Big Knit." The first Big Knit was in 2003, and since then, thousands of fans have knitted sweaters and hats for the bottles.

Innocent and Sainsbury

began selling the behatted bottles on Wednesday, and will donate £0.5 (US \$1.04) for each bottle sold to Age Concern, an NGO aimed at improving the conditions of the elderly by providing hot meals, thermometers, warm blankets and electric blankets with a safety timer.

The works are showcased and sold at Sainsbury Supermarkets.

Smoothie's styles range from sunbonnet to headgear to chapeau. Knitters have also made off-the-wall designs like dragon, pirate and rabbit hats. Last Wednesday, the

work, called "be afraid" was the hottest. It was knitted by a Sainsbury veteran. The hat, designed especially for Halloween, has a posh red felt-lined cloak, with blood dripping from its fangs. A Bradford woman knitted a Little Red Riding Hood-style wicker basket filled with cakes and a pot of butter.

Participants can connect to the company website at innocentdrinks.co.uk to submit their own works. The website displays some of the best-knit hats and sweaters from all over the world.

"The Man Wears Glasses" hat

By Gan Tian

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Innocent and Sainsbury



Where east and west collide

By Jackie Zhang

Located on the corner of the Fourth Ring Road and the Capital Airport Expressway, the area surrounding the Lido Hotel is an entertainment and communication base for both Asians and Westerners.

Since it is not far from Wangjing, a popular gathering place for South Koreans, lots of Koreans often come to have dinner, hold parties or meet friends in the area. South Korean style restaurants and bakeries can be seen everywhere.

It is also easy to locate clubs and restaurants for a drink or enjoy typical western food. The difficulty may be in deciding which restaurant to choose since there are so

many choices.

Many restaurants and clubs in the area provide services for organizing small or medium-sized parties. Whether you want to have a group meeting at a western-style restaurant or your needs involve a romantic wedding ceremony on the grass, you can find the right place.

Many restaurants serve up an array of tastes to meet any need. Traditional and typical Chinese food can also be found.

For some exercise or a massage, go to the Lido Hotel which offers fitness and massage clubs.

Continued on page 17 ...
Illustration by Wang Bin

...continued from page 16

Find authentic southern flavor in the capital



Photo by Jackie Zhang

By Jackie Zhang

The interior of Le Pot-au-Feu is like something out of a Hong Kong movie, but it serves authentic Canton dishes, soups, rice pots, and seafood instead of the typical teas and snacks.

It is not terribly easy to spot. Although not small, it lacks the pomp and flash most local restaurants employ to attract customers. The customers it does draw, however, are regulars.

Rice pot is the traditional staple of Guangdong Province, and comes highly recommended at Le Pot-au-Feu. The pots are available in 20 fla-

vors. Sausage, chicken, griskin and duck all go into the pots.

The sausage rice pot is a house specialty. Preserved pork sausages and duck legs are mixed into the rice to flavor it. One pot serves four to six. With the city's weather getting colder and colder, a rice pot and a pot of soup is a good meal to keep one warm and satisfied.

Fin served with chicken soup is another highly-recommended dish. The highlight of the dish is not the fin, because most chefs use cheap fins. What makes it delicious is the broth. Le Pot-au-Feu's soups are boiled a long time,

and the flavor comes out in the first spoonful. It can't be compared to soups made from granulated chicken stock.

First-floor diners can watch their dishes get cooked through a glass window.

The second floor is quiet, and is designed for group dinners or lovers sharing a romantic meal. There are special rooms available for guests to dine in a comparatively independent environment.

Le Pot-au-Feu

Where: Beside the north gate of Side Park, Jiangtai Xi Lu, Chaoyang District

Open: 10 am – 11 pm

Tel: 6438 8889

Experience the capital's authentic Indian spice

By Huang Daohen

If you are crazy for curry and seeking Indian food in the capital, there are only a few options. Most can hardly compare to authentic restaurants in Delhi, India, but the Ganges Indian Restaurant is an exception.

This popular Indian joint serves classic dishes such as chicken and lamb tikka masala, a traditional Indian chicken dish based on baked chicken or lamb chunks. As many as 20 vegetarian curries are also available.

Don't be fooled by the modest exterior at its Lido branch. Walk inside to find a comfortable, quiet

restaurant up to international standards. The over-stuffed furniture at the corner, Bollywood paraphernalia and music videos give the place a sense of elegance and comfort.

The menu, featuring 350 items, has all the Indian standards one would expect and require. The menu is filled with delectable treats, like addictive lamb, spinach curry and tasty snacks.

The vegetable samosa, at a price of 23 yuan, is crisp with just the right amount of kick. The palak paneer, costing 44 yuan, is an all-time favorite and does not disappoint.

All spices and many ingredients are imported, Tang Tianzhu, man-

ager of the restaurant's Lido branch, said.

The Ganges has been serving the Indian cuisine since 2005, and this Indian eatery is quickly making a name by serving up authentic flavors in colorful, Bollywood-themed decor and at relative low prices.

Already popular with the foreign student crowd in Wudaokou, the Ganges owners made a wise move by opening their second venue in the heart of the CBD and Lido area.

Ganges Indian Restaurant

Where: 5/B Hairun Apartments, 2 Jiangtai Lu, Chaoyang District

Open: Daily 11 am – 11 pm

Tel: 5135 8353, 1391 0629 470



Photo provided by Ganges Indian Restaurant

Savory love affair with Korean bread

By Jackie Zhang

Falling in love with the cakes and breads in Coups is a surefire way to gain weight, but once inside the bakery, it's impossible to only sample one or two of its breads.

Coups Bakery & Cafe's manager and all its bakers are from South Korea. Its breads, cakes and snacks are prepared from high-quality, costly ingredients in a strictly Korean fashion.

"I couldn't have imagined a bakery having such high production costs before I came to work here," Cai Lina said. "When I made the first month's financial report, I found that the bakery spent a lot of money on materials and production."

Cai said that the first bread she ate in Coups was the Tuna French. Before her first visit, she read comments online and found that almost everyone

recommended it.

"I bought one and found that there was really at least half of a tuna inside the bread. The posters didn't lie. I thought the baker had put a whole tin of tuna inside."

Coups offers many other bread flavors. "Seventy percent of the customers are foreigners. All of them can find at least one kind of bread they like," Kim Soung Ho, vice president of Coups, said.

The cafe provides some simple dishes like spaghetti, salads, soups and pizza. Various coffees, ice-cream, cookies, teas and cakes are also available. The first floor is for customers to sit, rest and enjoy a cup of coffee or tea with cookies, cakes or ice cream.

Wireless Internet service is available on the second floor.

"The second floor is also

available for group parties," Cai said, "Some people come here for wedding ceremonies or regular parties. Just give us a call, and we'll arrange it for you."

For Christmas, Coups will introduce several Christmas cakes. The star attraction is its gingerbread house. The house, standing nearly a half a meter tall, is made of cookies and edible materials. It keeps easily in the home, and can be placed in the living room for some added Christmas atmosphere. Enjoy picking it apart with your family and friends over the holidays.

Coups Bakery & Cafe

Where: Block 3, Hairun International Condominium, Chaoyang District

Open: 6:30 am – 11 pm

Tel: 5135 8024



Photo provided by Coups Bakery & Cafe

Continued on page 18 ...

...continued from page 17

Dining among plants in a glass house



Photo provided by Eudora Station

By Jackie Zhang

When I first came across Eudora Station, I knew I would love it. From the outside looking in, the glass house and the candles burning on each table delivered a warm and romantic atmosphere.

Eudora is an American town in Kansas. In the 19th century, millions of people came to America with hopes and dreams of a new life. One group of German immigrants arrived. They founded their new town and built houses out of limestone, native walnut and oak trees that grew so abundantly in the valleys. The town was named Eudora, which is said to be from ancient Greek, meaning "good gift."

"It is in this spirit that we have created Eudora Station. We hope that in Eudora, people can find comfort and an environment that is pleasing to the eyes, ears and taste," Jenny Xing, assistant manager of the restaurant, said.

The food Eudora Station offers is a mixture of western food, from appetizers, salad and soup, pasta and risotto to main courses including baked duck, steaks and lamb leg. "The mushroom soup in Eudora is delicious and interesting. We serve it in a bread-made bowl. Many people love it for its milky

smell mixed with the taste of bread," Xing said.

The design of the restaurant is also interesting. Green plants can be seen every where. You'll feel that you are dining in a tiny forest. The rear garden, front deck and rooftop areas are specially set up for dining, drinking or group functions.

During summer, the rear garden and front deck are open air favorites. People can dine under big umbrellas and drink beer, enjoying their meal in the sunshine. The rooftop is also open. When the weather turns cold in autumn and winter, the rear garden and front deck are surrounded by glass to become glass houses. When it snows outside, it is nice to sit in the glass houses enjoying a cup of warm tea or coffee.

Eudora Station

Where: 6, Fangyuan Xi Lu, Chaoyang District

Open: 10 am - 2 am next day

Tel: 6437 8813

Enjoy Irish double tastes

By Gan Tian

Opposite Beijing Japanese School, Frank's Place offers children's laughter as well as food and coffee.

The brown and red wooden chairs and tables make the ambience a little drab. A few more lights would brighten it up. Shining glasses are hanging over the bar counter and movie posters are placed everywhere. Tim Hunt, the manager, mentioned it is a typical Irish pub due to its special decorations. "The wooden theme will remind people of their hometown," Hunt said.

There is a back deck hidden on the south side of the pub. Walking outside, guests will notice another totally different style. "It is more traditional inside Frank's Place, but here on the back deck, you can see it is much more modern. We call it a garden," Hunt said. Black and transparent floors, sculptures and funky music make this area more suited to a younger clientele.

The big white screen catches everyone's attention. Feel like sharing a movie with some friends? Well, you can. Bring your favorite movie here on Monday to share, enjoy *Desperate Housewives* on Tuesday, watch a movie specially selected on

Wednesday or enjoy a party on weekends. A variety of activities are presented here everyday.

"Sports" is another keyword at Frank's. As a sports fan himself, Hunt has installed six televisions and screens to broadcast sports events! "Soccer, NBA basketball, baseball ... we have many DVDs and we broadcast important events," Hunt became excited when he talked sports, "There were nearly 150 people here watching a game last Saturday!"

Frank's Place settled down for business here in June last year. However, it has an 18-year history. It first opened in the downtown area by the City Hotel in 1989 and moved here last year. As it had already enjoyed a good reputation among expats and Chinese locals, it didn't change its name or food menu.

Frank's Spicy Buffalo Wings at 38 yuan, have enriched flavor containing the chef's garlic aioli, and are the most frequently ordered dish here. The Dark Beer Platter features baby lambs chops, parma ham, salami, shrimps and tomato bruschetta, aged parmesan, Danish blue and classic caesar salad, olive focaccia all mixed together and goes for 108 yuan. Loaded Nachos is also a must - mozzarella-glazed crispy nacho chips topped with



Photo provided by Frank's Place

salsa, sour cream, guacamole, jalapeno's and chili beef, only 78 yuan.

Love sports? Feel British? Want to club? Find it all at Frank's Place!

Frank's Place

Where: West of Rosedale Hotel, Jiangtai Xi

Lu, Lido Area, Chaoyang District

Open: 10 am - 2 am next day

Tel: 6437 8399

Enjoy Genuine Italian Cuisine in Il Casale



Photo by Jackie Zhang

By Li Jing

Il Casale is located at the end of Jiangtai Xilu. Its fame attracts reporters from far and wide. In the distance appears a two-story building with a small yard in the front. Entering the room, you find wooden tables and a vaulted ceiling. A real working fireplace is on the second floor, adding warmth in the coming winter. Specially-designed light creates a romantic atmosphere for the perfect, rich Italian meal.

Besides the Italian elegant environment, the restaurant is prepared to serve fresh and genuine Italian cuisine using ingredients imported all the way from Italy. Leandro Carrega, the director of food and beverages, told reporters that though there are great differences between Chinese and Italian cuisine, he is reluctant to adjust his Italian dishes to mirror Chinese cuisine. He is insists on making his dishes the same as that found in Italy.

The Seasonal Fresh Green Garden Salad for 28 yuan is made from fresh vegetables and fruits as well

as Italian vinegar squeezed from grapes. The Grilled Local Beef Tenderloin with Fresh Garden Salad for 110 yuan is popular with Italian customers here.

One huge plus is that 60 percent of the dishes on the menu are created by Leandro himself and can exclusively be found here and in his twin restaurant Agrilandia Italian Farm. For example, My Dream for 65 yuan is a dish created by Leandro as a result of a dream. If you can present a full description of your favorite flavor, Leandro can create a unique dish tailored to your taste. Obviously, the price will be a little higher than the regular dishes offered.

Besides creative dishes, the restaurant offers a variety of genuine Italian dishes including appetizers, salads, pastas, sauces and steaks.

Il Casale Italian Restaurant

Where: Jiangtai Xilu, Chaoyang (In front of Japanese School)

Open: 11:30 am - 2:30 pm

5:30 pm - 11 pm

Tel: 6436 8778

...continued from page 18

South Korean Restaurants

Pine Hill

Korean Cuisine

BEIJING TODAY

Where: Beside north gate of Side Park, next to Le Pot-au-Feu, Jiangtai Xi Lu, Chaoyang District
Open: 10 am – 11 pm
Tel: 6437 5710

Blue Lake Restaurant

A romantic place serving Korean dishes. Plan your private wedding ceremony inside the all-glass-restaurant.

Where: 6, Fangyuan Xi Lu, inside Lido Park, behind the Rosedale Hotel, Chaoyang District
Open: 11 am – midnight
Tel: 6438 0881/0877

Huachunwu Korean Restaurant

Nice environment and considerate service. A great place to sample different Korean dishes.
Where: 2a, Jiangtai Lu, Chaoyang District
Open: 9:30 am – 9:30 pm
Tel: 6435 4948, 6435 4950

Chinese Restaurants

Le Pot-au-Feu

BEIJING TODAY

Try the authentic Guangdong rice pots and soups here.

Where: Beside north gate of Side Park, Jiangtai Xi Lu, Chaoyang District
Open: 10 am – 11 pm
Tel: 6438 8889

Damingtang Chinese Restaurant

This restaurant provides a great-tasting variety of Chinese dishes.

Where: 6, Fangyuan Xi Lu, north gate of Lido Park, Chaoyang District
Open: 11 am – 2 am next day
Tel: 6431 4254, 6434 4748

Western food

Il casale

Italian Restaurant

BEIJING TODAY

The place to go for authentic Italian. All the chefs are shipped in from Italy.

Where: At the end of Jiangtai Xi Lu, next to 3E International Kindergarten, Chaoyang District
Open: 11:30 am – 2:30 pm, 5:30 pm – 11 pm
Tel: 6436 8778

Frank's Place

BEIJING TODAY

The food and coffee at Frank's Place are

accompanied by laughing and boisterous children.

Where: Between Il casale Italian Restaurant and Le-Pot-au-Feu, at the end of Jiangtai Xi Lu, Chaoyang District
Open: 10 am – 2 am next day
Tel: 6437 8399

Eudora Station

BEIJING TODAY

Various western dishes are served up in this restaurant's green interior. Wireless Internet service is available.

Where: 6, Fangyuan Xi Lu, Chaoyang District
Open: 10 am – 2 am next day
Tel: 6437 8813

Tex-Mex Grill

BEIJING TODAY

This restaurant serves Tex-Mex dishes, an amalgamation of southern US and Mexican styles. The chef salad here is delicious and the prices are reasonable. A great balance of quality and quantity.

Where: Shop 2, 2b, Hairun International Condominium, Jiangtai Lu, Chaoyang District
Open: 7:30 am – 11:30 pm
Tel: 5135 8187

Sonne by Sophie's Restaurant

Serves basic western dishes including salads, soups, spaghetti, steak and coffee.

Where: Shop 9, 2b, Hairun International Condominium, Jiangtai Lu, Chaoyang District
Open: 7 am – 10 pm
Tel: 5135 7329

Bakery, Indian restaurant and club

Coups Bakery & Cafe

BEIJING TODAY

This South Korean-style bakery serves many breads and cakes. Basic western foods are available on the second floor. The bakery also hosts private parties.

Where: Shop 3, 2b, Hairun International Condominium, Jiangtai Lu, Chaoyang District
Open: 6:30 am – 11 pm
Tel: 6471 4833

Ganges Indian Restaurant

BEIJING TODAY

One of the most authentic Indian restaurants in Beijing. Its buffet hours begin at noon.

Where: Shop 5, 2b, Hairun International Condominium, Jiangtai Lu, Chaoyang District
Open: 11 am – 11 pm
Tel: 5135 8353

Cafe del mar Club

BEIJING TODAY

A European-American style club. Beers, wines and whiskey make for a romantic and exciting night. Don't overindulge if you plan to remember it the next day.

Where: Shop 7, 2b, Hairun International Condominium, Jiangtai Lu, Chaoyang District

Open: 9 am – 3 am next day
Tel: 5135 7028

Hotels

Rosedale Hotel

A four-star hotel in Beijing with 428 rooms and suites. Its banquet halls and conference rooms can accommodate hundreds at a time. An exercise center, business center and shops are available.

Where: 8, Jiangtai Xi Lu, Chaoyang District
Tel: 5960 2288

Lido Hotel

This four-star hotel belongs to Bass Hotels & Resorts. There are 722 rooms and 14 bars and restaurants. The hotel offers all kinds of massage and fitness services, an exercise center, swimming pool and hair salon.

Where: Jiangtai Lu, Chaoyang District
Tel: 6437 6688

Yanxiang Hotel

A three-star hotel with 369 rooms divided into standard, no smoking and business. Its five restaurants serve Chinese dishes, coffee and American fast food. A business center, shops, an exercise room and entertainment centers are available.

Where: Jiangtai Lu, opposite to Lido Hotel, Chaoyang District
Tel: 5138 9988

Cafe

Sculpting in Time

A quiet and cozy place for a group of friends to meet and chat. Serves various drinks and snacks.

Where: Shop 3a, 2b, Hairun International Condominium, Jiangtai Lu, Chaoyang District
Open: 8 am – midnight
Tel: 5135 8108

Supermarket

Jenny Lou's Super Market

Where: Shop 8B, Hairun International Condominium, Jiangtai Lu, Chaoyang District
Open: 8 am – midnight
Tel: 5135 8338

Kindergarten

3E International Kindergarten

An engaging learning environment for children. The facilities are designed to inspire discovery and investigation and to facilitate meaningful relationships among children, families and staff.

Where: 9-1, Side Park, Jiangtai Xi Lu, Chaoyang District
Tel: 6437 3344

BEIJING TODAY

Beijing Today is available at all locations listed above.

**1. Miramar, Argentina
(January 13, 1952)**

Coastline in Miramar

Guevara started his journey on January 4, 1952, from Buenos Aires, capital of Argentina. The first leg of his journey took him 601 kilometers south to meet his girlfriend in Miramar.

Situated on the Atlantic coast in General Alvarado District of Buenos Aires Province, Miramar offers beautiful scenery with smooth, wide beaches and modern resorts.

Miramar was born as a summer resort and grew into one of the most well-known tourist sites in the country. Aside from its 20-kilometer beach, perfect for water sports, beach activities or simply enjoying the sun and sand, there are many other interesting activities.

Breathing the pure air of the Florentino Ameghino Dune Farm is one of the traditional excursions in Miramar. Fishermen looking for sport can try fishing from the pier, the breakwaters or the coast.

Horse riding in Los Patricios Park, an excellent golf game at the 18-hole Miramar Golf Club or rural tourism to a nearby estancia are some other attractive alternatives that complement the natural beauty of the sea.

**2. Piedra del Auila, Argentina
(January 29, 1952)**

The Limay River

Che Guevara stayed at a home in the village of Piedra del Auila after his tent was blown away.

The origin of the name Piedra del Aguila seems to be attributed to big birds nested in the promontories around the village.

This town is characterized by being the gateway to the Lakes Corridor, where the predominant shrubby, thorn-bush vegetation is gradually being replaced by Andean flora to the west.

The wild mingles with the traditional, and mineral riches seem to emerge among stones and rush.

The surroundings feature beautiful plateaus, vestiges of old forts, herds of guanacos and rheas, as well as modern energy plants.

**3. Lanin National Park, Argentina
(January 31, 1952)**

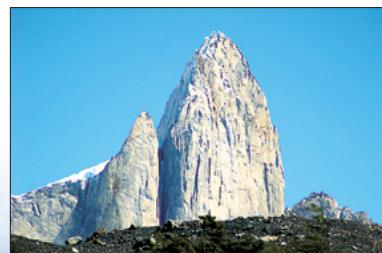
Hiking in Lanin National Park

Che Guevara fell ill in a village in Lanin National Park after picking up a pigeon shot down into a lake by his friend, biochemist Alberto Granado.

The park was created in 1937 to preserve a good sample of the northern patagonian Andes woods and forests, including some species not found elsewhere: the Araucaria and two southern beeches much sought after for timber quality.

The park gets its name from the Lanin volcano, a cone typical of such geological activity, covered in snow. It rises 3,777 meters above sea level and towers over the surrounding mountains, making it a very easy-to-recognize landmark.

There are 24 lakes in the park, all of glacial origin. The northern part of the park, between lakes Norquino and Huechulafquen, is where the araucaria monkey-puzzle trees grow, associated with lenga and the Chusquea cane.

4. Nahuel Huapi National Park, Argentina (February 3, 1952)

The peak of Cerro Catedral

Guevara was experiencing a bad asthma flare up when he arrived at San Carlos de Bariloche, a town in the Nahuel Huapi National Park.

**5. Temuco, Chile
(February 18, 1952)**

loche, a town in Nahuel Huapi National Park.

The park is one of the jewels of Argentina. Its spectacular lakes and rivers are carved by ancient glaciers to form majestic mountains to form inviting valleys, meadows, Valdivian forests and wildflowers. The name comes from the Mapuche language, where nahuel is tiger and huapi is island.

The park is a year-round destination for nature lovers and sports enthusiasts. In spring, melting snow creates waterfalls by the dozens. In winter, the mountain snows draw skiers, particularly at Cerro Catedral.

In summer and fall, the lakes and terrain attract boaters, fly fishers, trekkers, rafters, equestrians, mountain bikers and climbers.

**5. Temuco, Chile
(February 18, 1952)**

A villager in Temuco

Guevara crossed over the snowy mountains to arrive in Chile, where the locals had read about his journey in the newspaper and gave him and his friend a warm welcome.

Temuco is the perfect starting point for an exploration of Chile's stunningly beautiful Lake District, a region of rolling hillsides, lush green forests and snow-capped volcanic peaks.

It is also the cultural center of the Mapuche Indians, the original inhabitants of the area.

Today, the Lake District has almost 3,000 Mapuche reservations, and Temuco is the principal market town.

In town, Nielol Hill is the perfect place for picnics and leisurely walks and offers a great view of the surrounding countryside.



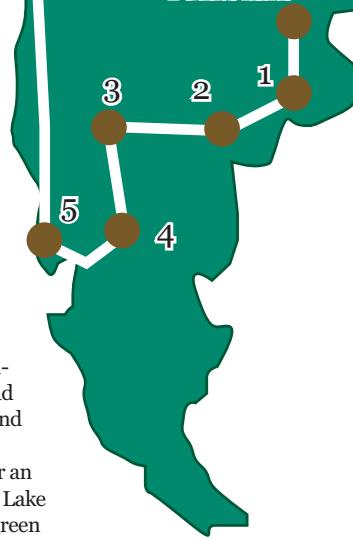
On the road with young Che

In 1952, two young men made a journey on "La Ponderosa," an old Norton 500 single motorbike, around South America. One of the two was Latin American revolutionary leader Ernesto "Che" Guevara. The journey opened his eyes to the situation of the Indians and was crucial in awakening his social conscience.

He recorded his impressions in *The Motorcycle Diaries*. "The person who wrote these notes died the day he stepped back on Argentine soil. Wandering around our 'America with a capital A' has changed me more than I thought," he wrote in his diary.

This year is the 40th anniversary of Guevara's death. Beijing Today has selected some places along the route of his journey both to commemorate Guevara and rediscover the meaning of the travel.

Buenos Aires





Atacama Desert

6. Atacama Desert, Chile (March 11, 1952)

Guevara and Granado met a couple in the desert. The

only sacrificial offering at the top is, curiously, an abandoned mountain bike.

Also close to San Pedro is the Reserva Nacional Los Flamencos, which boasts, among other attractions, Chaxa Lagoon, home to a flamingo breeding colony.

Apart from all this eye-candy, the desert is a magnet for archaeologists; the rainless conditions have left a wealth of intact history behind. Pre-Colombian relics, Incan artifacts and perfectly preserved mummies from the Paleo-Indian civilization are included in the haul.

7. Cusco, Peru (April 2, 1952)

couple were communists, and Guevara listened to their ideals.

The Atacama Desert in Chile is the driest desert in the world. There are parts of it where rain has never been recorded, and the precious little precipitation that does fall comes from fog.

Flanked on one side by Pacific coastal ranges and on the other by the snowcapped peaks of the Andes, the desert is a series of salt basins that support virtually no vegetation. In other words, it's dry, it's barren and it's empty.

But the bare facts don't do justice to the Atacama Desert; it's one of the most spectacular and dramatic landscapes on earth and a natural wonder.

Head for San Pedro, a placid oasis of adobe houses at the edge of the Salar de Atacama, the Salt Lakes of Atacama, and hit the "gringo trail." Surrounding the village are immense volcanoes, most of which are extinct, that used to be sacred Incan sites. Today, the



Statue of Jesus in Cusco

Che Guevara regarded Cusco as the heart of Latin America. He learned its traditions and visited the villagers to gain a deeper understanding of Latin America.

Cusco is located in the Andes and is well-known for its warm and friendly inhabitants. Due to its central location, the city is often used as a departing point for discovering Peru, Bolivia and Chile.

Inca walls, colorful costumes, churches built on top of palaces, citadels lost in the Andean heights, legendary roads – all the beauty of a glorious past awaits

visitors to Cuzco, the sacred city of the Incas and archaeological capital of the Americas.

The city, however, features many other attractions which by themselves would be enough to attract visitors: the main square, which the Incas called Huacaypata, the artisans quarter of San Blas, the Convent of Santo Domingo, built on top of the Temple of the Sun or Korikancha and the palaces of the Inca and their court are part of the long list of archaeological wonders.

8. Machu Picchu, Peru (April 5, 1952)



In front of its cultural relics, Guevara pondered the development of culture.

Machu Picchu is a city located high in the Andes Mountains in modern Peru. It lies 43 miles

the Urubamba River canyon cloud forest, so it likely did not have any administrative, military or commercial use.

Machu Picchu is comprised of approximately 200 buildings, most being residences, although there are temples, storage structures and other public buildings. It has polygonal masonry, characteristic of the late Inca period.

About 1,200 people lived in and around Machu Picchu, most of them women, children and priests. The buildings are thought to have been planned and built under the supervision of professional Inca architects.

Most of the structures are built of granite blocks cut with bronze or stone tools, and smoothed with sand. The blocks fit together perfectly without mortar, although none of the blocks are the same size and have many faces. Some blocks have as many as 30 corners. The joints are so tight that even the thinnest of knife blades can't be forced between the stones.

Another unique thing about Machu Picchu is the integration of the architecture into the landscape. Existing stone formations were used in the construction of structures, sculptures are carved into the rock, water flows through cisterns and stone channels and temples hang on steep precipices.

Tips

If you are interested in any of these destinations, please find how to get there in the section below.

Miramar: Reachable on National Route 19.

Piedra del Aula: Reachable from Neuquén and Bahía Blanca along national routes 22 and 237, or from Bariloche along route 237 and along route 40 to El Bolsón.

Lanín National Park: San Martín de los Andes can be reached on National Route 234. The Chapelco airport, 24 kilometers from town, serves several daily internal flights.

Nahuel Huapi National Park: Reach here from Bariloche on national routes 234 and 231. You can also arrive from San Martín de los Andes by Provincial Route 63. By plane, arrive at the Bariloche airport.

Temuco: Reach here by plane. LANExpress serves Temuco with an average of four daily flights from Santiago and one daily flight to Puerto Montt. Sky Airline serves Temuco with two daily flights from Santiago and two weekly flights to and from Puerto Montt.

Atacama Desert: From Santiago, catch a plane or bus to Antofagasta and another bus out to San Pedro – from there book a tour or rent a mountain bike.

Cusco: Lima to Cusco is a 70-minute flight.

Machu Picchu: The most common way is to take the morning train to Machu Picchu, explore the ruins for a few hours and return to Cusco in the afternoon. The train terminates at Puentecillas station, where buses take tourists up the mountain to Machu Picchu.

(By He Jianwei)

Photos by Pbase.com



A street in Caracas



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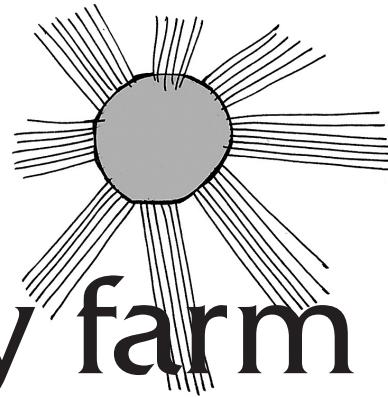
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[北京电力] [西安杨森] [燕山石化] [电通广告] [默沙东（中国）有限公司]

[德国威乐] [诺华制药] [联想中国] [方正集团]

PATTISON



Chinglish story

This column focuses on Chinglish mistakes in our daily life. If you have any experiences to share, send them to Gan Tian at gantian@ynet.com.

No fun at the funny farm

By Huang Daohen

"I've made a reservation for you at the funny farm, Davy. Why not go there and relax this weekend." One of my friends, Simon Zhang, surprised me Monday morning when he sent this odd invitation via MSN.

Funny farm? I knew it wasn't April Fools Day. I rechecked my calendar just to make sure that there was no special meaning for the upcoming weekend so I wouldn't disappoint him by not getting his joke.

"I had a really nice time in the suburbs last weekend," Zhang continued as I hesitated to reply.

"Beijing has so many beautiful suburban areas with different topographies featuring not only enchanting scenery, but also numerous historic sites," he said.

"During our stay in Shunyi, we enjoyed climbing the mountain. The mountain cloaked in red leaves is charming," my friend continued, "After a day of climbing, we spent a night at the funny farm."

Oops! I suddenly realized what my friend had meant, and he wasn't making fun of me by using the phrase "funny farm".

With the boom of tourism in the suburbs, local farmers recently opened many cheap hotels called *nongjiale* which translates to funny or happy farmer hotel.

No wonder Zhang used the term "funny farm" when referring to *nongjiale*.

Nevertheless, in English, "funny farm" is a slang term for



CFP Photos

a psychiatric hospital. This term is considered by many to be offensive. It uses the word "funny" in the sense of "not quite right in the head."

Zhang felt embarrassed when he realized that he had mistakenly labeled me insane. Still, I happily accepted his invitation to the Nongjiale hotel.

In addition to the funny farm, one should exercise

caution when using similar terms like funny bin, funny place, funny house or funny factory.

The next time you want to spend the weekend in the suburbs, do not be in a hurry to tell your friend that you've made a reservation at the "funny farm," since a day's stay at the "funny farm," in the eyes of others, is really not that much fun.

This column aims to identify Chinglish in public areas. If you see any Chinglish signs, please take a picture and send it to gantian@ynet.com together with your name and address.



Doing the business middle

By Derrick Sobodash

If anyone gets around to opening a Chinglish museum to showcase the disasters quickly disappearing from this capital, this sign should be considered for inclusion.

Since Beijing began preparing for the Olympics, a prize Chinglish find like this has been hard to come by. This one is notable for managing to do everything wrong.

A building with such a flawed foundation would be blown up and rebuilt, that is the only way to save this sign.

"The first floor does the business middle" is horribly wrong. The first Chinese character means "two," and anyone able to count to two can figure out why.

Adding "does" is understandable, since in sentence translation verbs are important. This, however, is a sign.

The direct rendering of "the business middle" is equally frightening. While *yingye* means business and *zhong* may mean middle, that's not how they are intended.

Here, the sign is letting customers know the second floor is also open for business, not closed.

The bottom only gets worse. "Have welcomed the building selective purchasing" is an incredibly literal rendering that follows character by character.

The first word does mean welcome, the next character is ignored in favor of the fourth, "building," and then *xuan* and *gou* are rendered separately as "select" and "purchase."

This is how first year students translate when their only resource is a pocket character dictionary.

Putting it all together, this sign is intended to tell customers the second floor is still part of the store and they can continue shopping for junk up there. For such a sign, "Please continue shopping on our second floor," would work quite well.

A store caught displaying such terrible Chinglish would make this writer "selective purchase" elsewhere.

Blacklist

Beijing Today has come up with Blacklist, a new column of words or phrases commonly misused by Chinese speakers. If you're planning to be an English teacher, reporter or employee of a multinational company, then this page is your new best friend. Watch it for each week.

Local professor Zhu Shida

1. China tour performance

It should be China performance tour. It means a performing art troupe touring China. If you say China tour performance, it means giving a single performance on the troupe's tour of China. You can see the meanings are vastly different.

2. Asked how about take a taxi

The word order here is wrong. Firstly, you have to ask somebody about some-

thing. So, it should be, "Ask about how to do something." In this case, someone asked about how to take a taxi. "About" is followed by an infinitive phrase.

3. I thought of putting this into a mailbox and to post it

In this sentence, "to put" and "to post" are functionally equal. So, they must be grammatically equal as well. So, it should be, "I thought of putting this into a mailbox and posting it."

Native speaker Joe Edwards

1. China tour performance

You must flip two words here, "tour" and "performance" and make it "performance tour," to be clearer in your meaning. Besides, getting literal, you can't perform a tour. That would involve far too many costume changes and nobody wants to see you boarding several buses, trains and airplanes to a snappy melody. The phrase should be, "China performance tour."

2. Asked how about take a taxi

You'll never get a taxi this way. The words are not in the proper order and you need to add one necessary little word, "to." You're asking about how to do something so this sentence should read, "asked about how to take a taxi."

3. I thought of putting this into a mailbox and to post it

Firstly, with this sentence

you have stepped into the ugly, time-wasting world of redundancy. Putting something into a mailbox or posting something basically means the same thing, so choose one you like and use that. If you insist on being redundant, you must then correct the grammar. It should read, "I thought of putting this into a mailbox and posting it." Did you catch our adjustment, my repetitive, little friend?

Friday, November 9

Exhibition

Where – Works Series of Lin Ran Classical Platinum Printing

Where: Cloud & Sky Photo Image Gallery, C3006 Brewery Art Complex, Beihuqu Lu, Chaoyang

When: Tue-Sun 10:30 am – 5:30 pm, until December 28

Admission: Free

Tel: 5202 3892

Four Seasons: Spring Summer Autumn Winter – Michelangelo Pistoletto Solo Exhibition



Where: New Space, Cheng Xindong Space for Contemporary Art 1, 4 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang

When: Tue-Sun 10 am – 6 pm, until December 31

Admission: Free

Tel: 6433 4579

Serendipity

– New Works by Zhang Wei

Where: Courtyard Gallery, 319 Caochangdi, Chaoyang

When: Tue-Sun 11 am – 6 pm, until December 2

Admission: Free

Tel: 6526 8882

Movie

La Petite Jerusalem

Winner of the script prize at the 2005 Cannes Film Festival, Alou's La Petite Jerusalem pits intimacy against sex and ideology against divinity.

Where: French Culture Center, 1/F, Guangcui International Mansion, 18 Gongti Xilu, Chaoyang

When: 5 pm

Admission: 10-20 yuan

Tel: 6553 2627



Saturday, November 10

Exhibition

Rhythm of Woodcut – Exhibition of Prints by Kang Ning

Where: Beijing Wan Fung Art Gallery, the Imperial Archives, 136 Nanchizi Dajie, Dongcheng

When: Mon-Fri 9 am – 5 pm, Sat-Sun 10 am – 5 pm, until November 15

Admission: Free

Tel: 6523 3320

Joint Exhibition of Xue Jun and Pang Youjie



Where: Dr Gallery, C-9002 Brewery Art Complex, Beiyuan Dajie, Andingmen Wai, Chaoyang

When: Tue-Sun 10 am – 6 pm, until December 7

Admission: Free

Tel: 5202 3878

A Dream Eater – Yan Shuo Oil Painting Exhibition



Where: Imagine Gallery, 8 Art Studio, Feijiacun Dong Lu, Cuigezhuang, Laiguangying

ing Dong Lu, Chaoyang

When: Tue-Sun 10:30 am – 5:30 pm, until December 3

Admission: Free

Tel: 6438 5747

Outdoor

Royal Canal Boat Tour to the Summer Palace

This is a very well-received boat and walking tour, providing an opportunity to see a bit of everything in the capital, both historical sites and the everyday life of Beijing.

Where: Meet at the Chinese Culture Club (Kent Center, 29 Anjialou, Liangmaqiao Lu, Chaoyang) for coach transportation.

When: 9 am – 1:30 pm

Cost: 200 yuan

Tel: 6432 9341, 6432 1041

ryland Resort Hotel for registration.

When: The convention will start on November 16 in Guilin, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region. Walking along Guilin and Yangshuo, you can enjoy indescribable quiet and breath-taking views. The convention will last for four days until November 19.

Cost: 480 yuan (only include meals, accommodation and local transportation)

Tel: 8489 6319, 8489 6320, 8489 6321 (Beijing); 139 1052 8733, 136 0773 2066 (Guilin)

Stage in December

Music

Groove Coverage Beijing Concert

Who: Groove Coverage Where: Beijing Exhibition Theater, 135 Xizhimen Wai Dajie, Xicheng When: 7:30 pm, December 2 Admission: 180-880 yuan

Handel Messiah by International Festival Chorus

Who: International Festival Chorus and Martin Ennis Where: Zhongshan Music Hall, inside Zhongshan Park, Dongcheng When: 7:30 pm, December 8 Admission: 80-320 yuan

Richard Clayderman & Guoyue Tianjiao New Year Piano Concert

Who: Richard Clayderman Where: Great Hall of the People, on the west side of Tiananmen Square, Xicheng When: 7:30 pm, December 27 Admission: 180-1,680 yuan

New Year Concert: From Barcelona To Beijing

Who: The Principado De Asturias Symphony Orchestra Where: Poly Theater, 14 Dongzhimen Nan Dajie, Chaoyang When: 7:30 pm, December 30-31 Admission: 80-2,008 yuan

Drama

Musical Jin Sha

Who: Directed by San Bao Where: Poly Theater, 14 Dongzhimen Nan Dajie, Chaoyang When: 7:30 pm, December 28-29 Admission: 80-880 yuan

Dance

Moscow Theater Ballet Troupe China Tour

Who: Moscow Theater Ballet Troupe Where: Minorities Cultural Palace Theater, 49 Fuxingmen Nei Dajie, Xicheng When: 7:30pm, December 21-24 Admission: 80-880 yuan

Tap Dance

Christmas Shoes

Who: Chicago American Stamp Champion Team Where: Beijing Exhibition Theater, 135 Xizhimen Wai Dajie, Xicheng When: 7:30 pm, December 21-23 Admission: 80-1,280 yuan

Madame Butterfly by Northern Ballet Theater

Who: Northern Ballet Theater (UK) Where: Poly Theater, 14 Dongzhimen Nan Dajie, Chaoyang When: 7:30 pm, December 21-23 Admission: 120-1,680 yuan

(By Li Jing)

Sunday, November 11

Exhibition

Second Exhibition of Painting Handwork



until November 30

Admission: Free

Tel: 6437 1792

Patient – Clayton Brothers Debut Solo Exhibition

In Patient, Rob and Christian turn away from the exterior world we inhabit, and focus inwardly on the working of the physical body.

Where: F2 Gallery, 319 Caochangdi, Chaoyang

When: Wed-Sun 10 am - 6 pm, until January 14

Admission: Free

Tel: 6432 8831

Du Xinjian Solo Exhibition

Where: Art Scene Beijing, 2



Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang

When: Tue-Sun 10 am - 6 pm, until November 16

Admission: Free

Tel: 6431 6962

Outdoor

The 3rd Guilin Walking Convention

Where: Meet at Guilin Mer-

ryland Resort Hotel for registration.

When: The convention will start on November 16 in Guilin, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region. Walking along Guilin and Yangshuo, you can enjoy indescribable quiet and breath-taking views. The convention will last for four days until November 19.

Cost: 480 yuan (only include meals, accommodation and local transportation)

Tel: 8489 6319, 8489 6320, 8489 6321 (Beijing); 139 1052 8733, 136 0773 2066 (Guilin)